

# ARMY



# NAVY

GAZETTE OF THE  
REGULAR

## JOURNAL.

AND VOLUNTEER  
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REMINGTON NAVY REVOLVER, WITH EJECTOR; ADAPTED TO METALLIC CARTRIDGES.—Cut showing pistol in position to load, hammer at half-cock, gate of cartridge shield dropped down and shell partly thrown out.

THE accompanying cut presents a full-size view of a recent modification of the well-known and approved Remington Navy Revolver. Of this pistol, which for years has been the recognized weapon in the U. S. Navy, more than a hundred thousand had been sold previously to the introduction of metallic ammunition. A very convenient and effective improvement, suggested by the change from loose powder and ball to brass or copper-shell charges, was made two or three years since. In this type two cylinders, easily transferable, were provided, the one adapted to loose and the other to metallic ammunition; so that, in the possible default of his cartridge supply, the possessor of a "Remington Navy" could have recourse to powder and ball in their original shapes. The popularity of this improvement has been very great. Cartridges, however, having now become as universal an item in stock as were their antecedent staples, the age of progress demands a further step—this times in the manual convenience of the pistol. The present modification, as is obvious from the cut, refers to the expulsion of the discharged shell.

In this new type of the Navy, the proportions and calibre of the favorite old arm are preserved. The process of shell expulsion is performed by hand, through the always certain and easy operation of a rod, so secured in its socket as never to be lost. Simple directions for manipulation are as follows:

**TO LOAD**—"Grasp the stock with the left hand, half-cocking; open the shield at the base of the cylinder with the thumb of the right hand and insert the cartridges, rotating the cylinder for that purpose with the thumb of the left hand. Close the shield."

**TO REMOVE SHELLS**—"Half-cocking with same grasp as in the former operation, throw open the shield; with the right hand disengage the ejecting rod by dropping the lever which secures it in place. Then, rotating the cylinder as before, the downward plunge of the rod quickly thrusts out the shells. The arm, in a loaded condition, should be carried with the nose of the hammer engaged in a safety notch between the two cartridges."

The distinctive merits of this expedient are of a practical nature, the only possible objection to it being credited to the casuistry which is apt to depreciate an operation on account of its simplicity. With a very little practice the natural manipulation of this easily arranged plunger expels the discharged shells as promptly as the most exactly made automatic ejector, and it will bear all kinds of usage without getting out of order, while experience shows that the elaborate mechanism of the latter device is not adequately strong for rough treatment. The addition of the shield at the rear of the cylinder furnishes both a prevention against the escape of cartridges of the occasional small gauge, and at the same time provides an extra resistance base at the moment of discharge—which is not without decided value.

The Remington Navy Revolver in its design is perhaps the strongest weapon of its type, having no hinges, as its frame is constituted of a single piece of metal. The present improvement, it is worth noting, has been secured without deviating from the original strength or simplicity of the arm, so that it is now especially available for military uses. Being a most excellent shooter and of the same chambering as the .38 rifle—a popular calibre, it is especially adapted to target practice.



## STATIONS OF THE REGIMENTS OF THE U. S. ARMY, BY COMPANIES. (FEBRUARY 5, 1873.)

Regiment.	Headquarters.	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K
1st Cav.	Willett's Pt, NYH	Willett's Pt, NYH	Willett's Pt, NYH	Willett's Pt, NYH	Willett's Pt, NYH	West Point, N Y					
2d Cav.	Sanicla B'ks, Cal	Fort Whipple, AT	Ft Klamath, Or.	Cp McDermit, Nev	Camp Lowell, A	Fort Lapwai, I T	Camp Warner, Or	Camp Bidwell, Cal	Camp Harney, Or	Camp Verde, A T	Camp Bidwell, Cal
3d Cav.	Ft Sanders, W T	Ft Fred Steele, W T	Fort Bridger, W T	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Camp Douglas, UT	Fort Laramie, W T	Fort Ellis, M T	Fort Ellis, M T	Fort Ellis, M T	Ft Sanders, W T	Fort Laramie, W T
4th Cav.	Fort McPherson, Neb.	Fort McPherson, Neb	Fort McPherson, Neb	Fort Peterman, W. T.	Fort D. A. Russell, W. T.	Fort Sanders, W. T.	Fort McPherson, Neb	Fort D. A. Russell, W. T.	Fort D. A. Russell, W. T.	Fort McPherson, Neb	Fort McPherson, Neb
5th Cav.	Ft Concho, Texas	Ft Richardson, Tex	Ft Richardson, Tex	Ft Richardson, Tex	Madison Bks, NY	Ft Richardson, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex.	Ft Concho, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex	Ft Richardson, Tex
6th Cav.	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp Verde, AT	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp Bowie, A. T.	Cp Date Creek, AT	Cp Crittenden, AT	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp McDowell, AT	Cp Grant, A. T.	Cp Hualpai, AT
7th Cav.	Fort Riley, Kas	Fort Riley, Kas	Fort Riley, Kas	Fort Riley, Kas	Fort Wallace, Kas	South Eastern Kas	Fort Hays, Kas	Fort Dodge, Kas	Fort Dodge, Kas	Ft Harker, Kas	Ft Harker, Kas
8th Cav.	Louisville, Ky	Elizabethton, Ky	Spartanburg, S C	Charlotte, N C	Opelika, Ala	Unionville, S C	Louisville, Ky.	Newberry, S C	Nashville, Tenn	Lebanon, Ky	Yorkville, S C
9th Cav.	Fort Union, N M	Fort Bayard, N M	Ft Union, N M	Fort Union, N M	Fort Stanton, N M	Ft Wingate, N M	Ft Garland, C T	Ft Stanton, N M	Ft Stanton, N M	Ft Bayard, N M	Ft Wingate, N M
10th Cav.	Ringgold Bks, Tex	Ft Clark, Tex	Ringgold Bks, Tex	Fort Duncan, Tex	Fort Stockton, Tex	Fort Clark, Tex	Ft McKavett, Tex	Ft Clark, Tex	Ft Clark, Tex	Fort Davis, Tex	Ft Clark, Tex
11th Cav.	Fort Gibson, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Gibson, I T	Camp Supply, I T	Camp Supply, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T	Fort Sill, I T
12th Cav.	Charleston, S C	Ft Barrancas, Fla	Ft Polaski, Ga	Fort Pulaski, Ga	Savannah, Ga	Key West, Fla	Ft Barrancas, Fla	Ft Monroe, Va	Charleston, S C	Key West, Fla	Charleston, S C
13th Cav.	Ft McHenry, Md	Ft McHenry, Md	Fort Foote, Md	Ft McHenry, Md	Charlotte, N C	Fort Macon, N C	Raleigh, N C	Raleigh, N C	Ft McHenry, Md	Raleigh, N C	Ft Monroe, Va
14th Cav.	Ft Hamilton, NYH	Ft Hamilton, NYH	Ft Hamilton, NYH	Ft Hamilton, NYH	Madison Bks, NY	Fort Hamilton, NYH	Ft Hamilton, NYH	Ft Hamilton, NYH	David's Isl, NY H	Ft Hamilton, NYH	Ft Wadsworth, NYH
15th Cav.	Presidio, Cal	Presidio, Cal	Presidio, Cal	Presidio, Cal	Sitka, Alaska	Alcatraz Isl, Cal	Alcatraz Isl, Cal	Plattsburg B'ks, N Y	Cape Disappointment, W. T.	Ft Monroe, Va	Presidio, Cal
16th Cav.	Fort Adams, R I	Fort Adams, R I	Fort Adams, R I	Fort Adams, R I	Ft Warren, Mass	Ft Warren, Mass	Fort Adams, R I	Fort Adams, R I	Fort Adams, R I	Fort Adams, R I	Ft Sullivan, Me
17th Cav.	Ft Wayne, Mich	Fort Brady, Mich	Madison B'ks, NY	Ft Porter, N Y	Ft Wayne, Mich	Ft Wayne, Mich	Ft Mackinac, Mich	Ft Porter, N Y	Ft Porter, N Y	Ft Wayne, Mich	Ft Brady, Mich
18th Cav.	Mobile, Ala	Atlanta, Ga	Atlanta, Ga	Huntsville, Ala.	partanburg, S C	Chattanooga, Tenn	St Augustine, Fla	Mobile, Ala	St Augustine, Fla	Lancaster, Ky	Mobile, Ala
19th Cav.	Fort Hays, Kas	Fort Dodge, Kas	Camp Supply, I T	Ft Hays, Kas	Ft Hays, Kas	Ft Hays, Kas	Fort Lyon, C T	Fort Lyon, C T	Camp Supply, I T	Camp Supply, I T	Ft Leavenworth, Kas
20th Cav.	Little Rock, Ark	Little Rock, Ark	Little Rock, Ark	Little Rock, Ark	Little Rock, Ark	Little Rock, Ark	Little Rock, Ark	Little Rock, Ark	Little Rock, Ark	Little Rock, Ark	Little Rock, Ark
21st Cav.	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas	Ft Leavenworth, Kas
22d Cav.	Fort Buford, D. T.	Fort Buford, D. T.	Ft Ab. Lincoln, D T	Fort Buford, D. T.	Fort Buford, D. T.	Fort Buford, D. T.	Fort Buford, D. T.	Fort Buford, D. T.	Fort Buford, D. T.	Fort Buford, D. T.	Fort Buford, D. T.
23d Cav.	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Bentor, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T	Fort Shaw, M T
24th Cav.	Ft D. A. Russell, W T	Ft D. A. Russell, W T	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb
25th Cav.	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb	Omaha B'ks, Neb
26th Cav.	Ft McKavett, Tex	Ft McKavett, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex	Fort Concho, Tex
27th Cav.	Ft Richardson, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex	Fort Griffin, Tex
28th Cav.	Angel Island, Cal	Camp Wright, Cal	Camp Independence, Cal	Camp Independence, Cal	Camp Independence, Cal	Camp Independence, Cal	Camp Independence, Cal	Camp Independence, Cal	Camp Independence, Cal	Camp Independence, Cal	Camp Independence, Cal
29th Cav.	Ft Fred Steele, W T	Camp Brown, W T	Ft Fred Steele, W T	Camp Douglas, UT	Camp Douglas, UT	Camp Douglas, UT	Camp Douglas, UT	Camp Douglas, UT	Camp Douglas, UT	Camp Douglas, UT	Camp Douglas, UT
30th Cav.	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T	Ft Laramie, W T
31st Cav.	Santa Fe, N M	Ft Wingate, N M	Ft Wingate, N M	Ft Union N M	Fort Garland, C T	Fort Garland, C T	Fort Garland, C T	Fort Garland, C T	Fort Garland, C T	Fort Garland, C T	Fort Garland, C T
32d Cav.	Nashville, Tenn	Frankfort, Ky	Jackson, Miss	Aberdeen, Miss	Humboldt Tenn	Louisville, Ky	Nashville, Tenn	Nashville, Tenn	Nashville, Tenn	Nashville, Tenn	Nashville, Tenn
33d Cav.	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T	Fort Rice, D T
34th Cav.	Columbia, S C	Atlanta, Ga	Columbia, S C	Yorkville, S C	Columbia, S C	Atlanta, Ga	Sumter, S C	Columbia, S C	Columbia, S C	Columbia, S C	Columbia, S C
35th Cav.	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La	Jack-on B'ks, La	Jackson B'ks, La	Jackson B'ks, La	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La	Baton Rouge, La
36th Cav.	Ft Snelling, Minn	Ft Snelling, Minn	Fort Seward, D T	Ft Snelling, Minn	Fort Seward, D T	Fort Seward, D T	Fort Seward, D T	Fort Seward, D T	Fort Seward, D T	Fort Seward, D T	Fort Seward, D T
37th Cav.	Ft Vancouver, W T	Cp Harney, Or.	Ft Vancouver, W T	Ft Vancouver, W T	Camp Warner, Or	Fort Colville, W T	Ft Klamath, Or	Fort Lapwai, I T	San Juan Id. W T	Ft Vancouver, W T	Ft Boise, I T
38th Cav.	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Sully, D T	Ft Randall, D T	Ft Vancouver, W T	Fort Randall, D T	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Randall, D T	Fort Sully, D T	Fort Randall, D T
39th Cav.	Fort Whipple, AT	Camp Verde, A T	Cp Date Creek, AT	Cp McDowell, AT	Camp Lowell, AT	Camp Lowell, AT	Cp Bowie, A. T.	Cp Hualpai, A T	Camp Grant, A T	Camp Apache, AT	Ft Whipple, A T
40th Cav.	Fort Brown, Tex	Ringgold B'ks, Tex	Ringgold B'ks, Tex	Fort Quitman, Tex	Fort Quitman, Tex	Fort Quitman, Tex	Fort Quitman, Tex	Fort Quitman, Tex	Fort Quitman, Tex	Fort Quitman, Tex	Fort Quitman, Tex
41st Cav.	Fort Davis, Tex	San Antonio, Tex	San Antonio, Tex	San Antonio, Tex	San Antonio, Tex	San Antonio, Tex	San Antonio, Tex	San Antonio, Tex	San Antonio, Tex	San Antonio, Tex	San Antonio, Tex

First Cavalry—Companies L and M, Camp Apache, A. T. Second Cavalry—Company L, Fort Ellis, M T; Company M, Omaha, Neb. Third Cavalry—Co. L, Ft. D. A. Russell, W T; Co. M, Fort McPherson, Neb. Fourth Cavalry—Company L, Fort Concho, Tex; Company M, Fort Brown, Texas. Fifth Cavalry—Companies L and M, Camp Grant, A. T. Sixth Cavalry—Company L, Fort Riley, Kas; Company M, Fort Lyon, C T. Seventh Cavalry—Company L, New Orleans, La.; Company M, Oxford, Miss. Eighth Cavalry—Company L, Fort Union, N M; Company M, Fort Union, N M. Ninth Cavalry—Company L, Ft McIntosh, Tex; Company M, Fort McKavett, Tex. Tenth Cavalry—Companies L and M, Fort Sill, I T.

First Artillery—Company L, Fort Barrancas, Fla; Company M, Fort Jefferson, Florida. Second Artillery—Company L, Fort Macon, Va; Company M, Fort Johnston, Va. Third Artillery—Company L, Fort Wood, NYH; Company M, David's Island, NY H, company to go to Fort Wadsworth, N Y H. Fourth Artillery—Company L, Alcatraz Isl, Ca; Company M, Presidio, Cal. Fifth Artillery—Company L, Fort Adams, R I; Company M, Fort Preble, Me.

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REFERENCES:  
 Admiral D. D. Porter, U. S. N., Washington, D. C.  
 Vice-Admiral Stephen C. Rowan, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C.  
 Major-General Geo. B. McClellan, Orange, N. J.  
 Maj.-Gen. A. E. Burnside, Gov. of Rhode Island, Gen. Ed. Schriver, War Dept., Washington



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## THE ARMY.

### WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

### HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

W. T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States.

Colonel W. D. Whipple, Assistant Adjutant-General.

### WAR DEPARTMENT,

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

WASHINGTON, January 9, 1873.

### General Orders No. 4.

The last paragraph of General Orders No. 103, November 27, 1872, from this office, is hereby amended to read as follows:

When repairs become absolutely necessary for the preservation of public buildings or property that are rapidly deteriorating, Department commanders, with the approval of their division commanders, may order the purchase of material, not to exceed in amount five hundred dollars (\$500) for any one post; but hereafter no estimate for a greater amount than this will be filled until it shall have been submitted to and ordered by the Secretary of War.

By order of the Secretary of War:

THOS. M. VINCENT, Assistant Adjutant-General.

### WAR DEPARTMENT,

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 1873.

### General Orders No. 5.

When necessary for the transaction of the public business, an extra issue of adamant candles will be allowed, as follows:

For the office and store-rooms—

Of the chief quartermaster, or chief commissary, of a military division, department, district, or depot of supply, from April 1 to September 30, not exceeding, per month, ten pounds.

Of the quartermaster or commissary of a military post, from April 1 to September 30, not exceeding, per month, five pounds.

From October 1 to March 31, not exceeding, per month, double the above quantities.

These extra issues will be made by the Subsistence Department, on returns signed by the quartermaster or commissary, and approved by the commanding officer, who will determine whether the whole or only part of the allowance shall be issued.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

General Orders No. 6 publishes for the information of the Army "an act to authorize the construction of bridges across the Ohio, and to prescribe the dimensions of the same." Approved December 17, 1872.

General Orders No. 7 publishes an act for the relief of William Howard, approved December 20, 1872, and one for the relief of Samuel Hitchcock, approved December 20, 1872.

General Orders No. 8 publishes "an act authorizing the construction of railroad bridges across the Mobile river and other navigable streams tributary to Mobile Bay, in accordance with the acts of the Legislature of the State of Alabama, and to establish them as post-roads," approved December 24, 1872.

### WAR DEPARTMENT,

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

WASHINGTON, January 17, 1873.

### General Orders No. 9.

I. The Battalion of Engineers and the Engineer Post, depot and establishment of Willett's Point, New York Harbor, are under the direct orders of the Chief of Engineers, and independent of the command of either department or division commanders.

II. The inspections contemplated in General Orders No. 87, October 5, 1872, from the War Department, so far as relates to the Battalion of Engineers and its post, engineer establishments, officers, and agents, under the direct orders of the Chief of Engineers, will not be made by inspectors acting under the orders of either department or division commanders.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

### WAR DEPARTMENT,

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27, 1873.

### General Orders No. 13.

Paragraph 1, General Orders No. 8, February 8, 1871, from this office, is hereby so modified as to authorize the issue of the blanket-lined overcoat, buffalo overshoes, and woollen mittens, as therein provided, at the following-named posts in the Department of the Platte:

Fort Bridger, Wyoming Territory.

Fort Sanders, Wyoming Territory.

Fort Fred. Steele, Wyoming Territory.

Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming Territory.

Sidney Barracks, Nebraska.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

### WAR DEPARTMENT,

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

WASHINGTON, January 31, 1873.

### General Orders No. 14.

Until further orders there will be but five (5) sergeants allowed for companies of infantry and batteries of artillery not mounted, viz.:

One (1) first sergeant and four (4) duty sergeants.

The reductions under this order will be made gradually, by not filling vacancies which may occur in the grade by expiration of enlistment or other casualty.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

### WAR DEPARTMENT,

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4, 1873.

### Circular.

Hereafter the copy of the report of funds rendered weekly by recruiting officers to the Treasurer of the United States under the requirements of circular dated January 24, 1872, from this office, will be discontinued.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

### ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending February 3, 1873.

[No Special Orders were issued from the Adjutant-General's office on Monday, January 27, and on Saturday, the 1st of February, 1873.]

Tuesday, January 28.

By direction of the President, and in accordance with section 26 of the act of July 23, 1866, First Lieutenant Edmund L. Zalinski, Fifth Artillery, is hereby detailed as professor of military science and tactics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, and will report accordingly.

Discharged.—By direction of the President, Privates Charles E. Holland and James H. Stockwell, General Service U. S. Army.

Major M. M. Blunt, Fourteenth Infantry, is appointed to act as inspector on certain unserviceable recruiting property, ordnance stores, and camp and garrison equipment on hand at the rendezvous of Captain James S. Casey, Fifth Infantry, recruiting officer, New York city, and for which Captain Casey is responsible.

Wednesday, January 29.

Discharged.—Private Edwin Kipp, alias Charles G. Griswold, General Service U. S. Army; Private Garret M. Onderdonk, U. S. Military Academy detachment of cavalry; Private Charles R. Hanson, Company D, Ninth Infantry; Private Marshall E. Anderson, Company I, Eighth Infantry; First Class Private Timothy Curtin, Company D, Battalion of Engineers.

As soon as existing requisitions have been filled, the superintendent General Recruiting Service will cause to be prepared and forwarded, under proper charge, from Fort Columbus, New York harbor, twenty recruits to Fort McHenry, Maryland, where they will be reported upon arrival to the commanding officer of that post for assignment to Batteries C and H, Second Artillery.

Thursday, January 30.

On the recommendation of the regimental commander, the following transfers in the Fourth Cavalry are announced: Second Lieutenant Robert G. Carter, from Company E to Company A; Second Lieutenant Charles A. P. Hatfield, from Company A to Company E.

The Board appointed by General Orders No. 106, December 13, 1872, from this office, to examine and report upon plans and models of carriages for heavy ordnance, will visit Fort Monroe, Virginia, and Springfield Armory, Massachusetts, for the purpose of examining various gun carriages and apparatus for manœuvring the same, and to witness the action of the carriages in actual use.

Discharged.—Private George Doubledick, Mounted Service U. S. Army; Sergeant Andrew W. Eastlake, General Service U. S. Army.

Friday, January 31.

Discharged.—Hospital Steward Lucien H. Smith; Private Robert E. Carr, Battery H, Third Artillery; Private Benjamin F. Abbott, Company G, Seventh Cavalry; Recruit John Colvill, General Service U. S. Army; Unattached Private Edgar M. Overstreet, Fifth Cavalry; Corporal William Farnan, Ordnance Detachment, U. S. Army; Private Jerome C. Ball, Company H, Sixth Cavalry.

Leave of absence for six months is granted First Lieutenant D. I. Ezekiel, Fourth Infantry, on surgeon's certificate of disability.

Monday, February 3.

The Superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York city, will grant a furlough for two months, with permission to go beyond sea, to Private Herman W. Stone, General Service U. S. Army, now on recruiting service at Recruiting Rendezvous, Jersey City, New Jersey.

The expense incurred in the enlistment of James Burke, a rejected recruit of the General Service U. S. Army, will be stopped from the pay of First Lieutenant Thomas F. Quinn, Fourth Infantry, by whom he was enlisted. The Superintendent General Recruiting Service will inform the Paymaster-General of the amount incurred.

### CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Company K, First Cavalry, from Camp Hallock, Nev., to Camp Bidwell, Cal.  
Company L, Fourth Cavalry, from Fort Richardson, Tex., to Fort Concho, Tex.

### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-Gen. P. H. Sheridan: Hdq'r's Chicago, Ill.

### DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Brigadier-General Alfred H. Terry: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

THE following is a roster of the troops serving in this department. The roster of the staff was published last week:

Seventh Infantry.—At a meeting of the officers of the Seventh Infantry, stationed at Fort Shaw, M. T., Saturday, January 15, 1873, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, God, in his providence, has taken from us our brother officer, Brevet Captain M. C. Sanbourn, first lieutenant Seventh Infantry, whose loss we feel deeply both in personal and official relation, whose warm heart and generous impulses have endeared him to us all, and whose more than usual ability and usefulness to the service render his removal a matter for general regret;

Resolved, That we, his comrades, who mourn him here, express our profound sympathy with those whose affections, by ties of home and kindred, are still more deeply wounded.

Resolved, That in his death our regiment has sustained a grievous loss that cannot soon be repaired.

Resolved, That there be erected by his grave at this post a monument of stone with suitable inscriptions, and that the officers of the regiment wear the usual badge of mourning for the period of thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolution be sent to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL for publication; also a copy to the family of the deceased.

Twentieth Infantry.—A correspondent who writes from Fort Pembina, D. T., December 20, 1872, tells the following story of the unhandsome manner in which a too confiding setter dog was treated by a hunting party from Company K of this regiment: "Company K, Twentieth Infantry, serving at Fort Pembina, D. T., was sent upon escort duty with the 'Northern Boundary Survey,' and during the month of September, when the weather was pretty cold, with a little snow, Corporal Allan and Private Gates, of that company, went out chicken shooting one morning. They got lost for three days, having little to eat, and being nearly frozen. The third day, when their stock of chickens was out and no more could be procured, they hit upon a novel plan of sustaining life for awhile without killing their 'setter'—a dog they thought much of. They cut his tail (a good big one) close, roasted and eat it, giving the bone to the dog. They concluded to eat the dog next day, but luckily struck the trail the same evening, and spared the life of their setter. Inquiries being made at camp about the dog's tail, they told many stories of bears biting it off, etc., until at last the truth was extracted from them."

Second Cavalry.—Major N. B. Sweitzer, January 25 was ordered to take command of Fort Ellis, M. T.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

Sixth Cavalry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply at headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of twenty days, was granted First Lieutenant G. E. Overton, January 28.

Leave of absence for twenty days was granted Second Lieutenant J. A. Rucker, January 28.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord, Headquarters, Omaha, Nebraska.

Major Simeon Smith, chief paymaster of the department, January 20 was ordered to Fort McPherson, Nebraska, on official business. Having performed this duty, he was directed to return to his station in Omaha.

Eighth Infantry.—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Captain Charles Porter, January 20.

### DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Brigadier-General C. C. Augur: Headquarters San Antonio, Texas.

Post Chaplain Jeremiah Porter, January 17 was relieved from the operations of so much of S. O. No. 235, series of 1872, as directed him to proceed to Ringgold Barracks for duty at that post. Under above date, he was ordered to Fort Sill, I. T., reporting to the commanding officer for duty at that post.

Ninth Cavalry.—Leave of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, was granted Chaplain M. J. Gonzales, January 15.

Second Lieutenant John Online, January 23 was ordered to report to the commanding officer Fort Clark for temporary duty.

Fourth Cavalry.—Major John P. Hatch was assigned to duty at department headquarters, January 15.

Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Second Lieutenant J. W. Martin, January 20.

Tenth Infantry.—Captain D. W. Benham, Seventh Infantry, January 18 was ordered with the detachment of recruits for the Tenth Infantry, from Galveston to Austin, Texas.

Captain J. A. P. Hampson, Tenth Infantry, Captain J. L. Humphreys, Ninth Cavalry, First Lieutenant J. B. Hanson, Tenth Infantry, and First Lieutenant Gu...



tavus Valois, Ninth Cavalry, January 13 were detailed as additional members of the G. C. M., ordered in par. 2, S. O. No. 230, series of 1872, from department headquarters. First Lieutenant Patrick Casack, Ninth Cavalry, was at the same time relieved from duty as a member of the General Court-martial.

**Twenty-fifth Infantry.**—A General Court-martial convened at Fort Davis, Texas, January 27. Captain C. S. DeGraw, Medical Department, and the following officers of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, were detailed for the court: Captains D. D. Van Valzah, D. Schooley, J. H. Patterson, First Lieutenants F. A. Kendall, E. J. Stivers, Second Lieutenant W. I. Sanborn. Second Lieutenant W. Tear, judge-advocate.

**Fort Bliss.**—A General Court-martial convened at Fort Bliss, Texas, January 5. Detail for the court: Captain Frank M. Cox, Twenty-fifth Infantry; Captain E. M. Heyl, Fourth Cavalry; Captain Edgar C. Bowen, Eleventh Infantry; First Lieutenant Edward Allsworth, Twenty-fifth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Harris C. Wheeler, Twenty-fifth Infantry. Second Lieutenant Francis W. Mansfield, Eleventh Infantry, judge-advocate.

**San Antonio.**—A General Court-martial convened in San Antonio, Texas, January 20. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel A. McD. McCook, Tenth Infantry; Major J. P. Hatch, Fourth Cavalry; Majors G. E. Glenn, P. G. Hall, paymasters; Captain A. V. Cherbonnier, medical storekeeper; Captain J. Rendlebrook, Fourth Cavalry; Captain Clifton Comly, Ordnance Department. Captain G. B. Russell, Ninth Infantry, aide-de-camp, judge-advocate.

**Sixteenth Infantry.**—Major William H. Johnston, paymaster U. S. Army, January 27 was ordered to pay the troops at that post to December 31, 1872, after which he will return to his station in New Orleans.

**Eleventh Infantry.**—Leave of absence for twenty days was granted Second Lieutenant A. L. Myer, January 11.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE SOUTH.

**Major-General I. McDowell:** Headquarters, Louisville, Ky.

##### DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

**Colonel W. H. Emory:** Headquarters, New Orleans, La.

**First Artillery.**—Leave of absence for ten days was granted Captain Richard H. Jackson, January 21.

Batteries F and L, First Artillery, January 25 were relieved from duty in New Orleans, and ordered to return to their proper station, Fort Barrancas, Florida.

Major William H. Johnston, paymaster U. S. Army, January 25 was ordered to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for the purpose of paying the troops at that station to December 31, 1872. After paying the troops stationed in New Orleans, he is ordered to Jackson Barracks, La., and to Aberdeen, Miss., to pay the company of the Sixteenth Infantry there, thence to Fort Barrancas, Florida, to pay the batteries of the First Artillery at that post. After which he will return to his station in New Orleans.

**Nineteenth Infantry.**—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Captain Jacob H. Smith, January 20.

**Payment of Troops.**—Major George L. Febiger, chief paymaster of this department, January 20 was ordered to Jackson and Oxford, Mississippi, and Little Rock, Arkansas, for the purpose of paying the troops at those points, after which he will return to his station at New Orleans.

A. A. Surgeon W. R. Mandeville, U. S. Army, January 27 was relieved from duty at Jackson, Mississippi, and ordered to Jackson Barracks, Louisiana, for duty.

**Fourth Infantry.**—Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of three months, was granted Second Lieutenant Lewis Merriam, January 28.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

**Major-General W. S. Hancock:** Headquarters, New York.

##### DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

**Maj.-Gen. W. S. Hancock:** Headquarters, cor. Greene and Houston sts., N. Y.

The following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East for the week ending February 4: First Lieutenant G. G. Greenough, Fourth Artillery; Major F. U. Farquhar, Corps of Engineers; Captain J. D. DeRussy, First Infantry; Major R. V. W. Howard, Fourth Artillery; First Lieutenant C. P. Rodgers, Fifth Cavalry; Major H. A. Allen, Second Artillery; Major T. M. Anderson, Tenth Infantry; Lieutenant-Colonel Pinkney Lugenbeel, First Infantry; First Lieutenant S. H. Lincoln, Tenth Infantry; Major L. H. Pelouze, assistant adjutant-general.

**Second Artillery.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort McHenry, Md., January 30. The following officers of the Second Artillery were detailed for the court: Captain G. T. Olmsted, Jr., First Lieutenants W. P. Graves, J. H. Calef, adjutant, G. Mitchell, A. C. Taylor, R. M. Rogers, Second Lieutenant M. Crawford, Jr., Second Lieutenant W. Stanton, judge-advocate.

Leave of absence until the 15th of February has been granted Captain George T. Olmsted, Jr., to take effect on the final adjournment of the General Court-martial of which he is a member.

**Fifth Artillery.**—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted First Lieutenant B. K. Roberts, January 29.

A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Preble, Me., February 4. The following officers of the Fifth Artillery were detailed for the court: Major Truman Seymour, Captain H. F. Brewerton, First Lieutenants J. R. Brinckle, G. V. Weir, Frank Thorp. Second Lieutenant R. A. Ives, judge-advocate.

**General Recruiting Service.**—A circular issued by Colonel John Gibbon, Seventh Infantry, superintendent of the General Recruiting Service U. S. Army, located

in New York city, calls the attention of all officers on the Recruiting Service to the necessity of improving the quality of the men entering the Army, and says:

"A very large percentage of men enlisting disappear almost immediately from the rolls of the Army. Every precaution will be taken by recruiting officers to obtain a better class of men, and every available opportunity be made use of to acquaint the community with the recent improvement in the pay of the soldier, and the advantages arising therefrom. Any man who presents himself at a recruiting rendezvous under the influence of drink will be peremptorily rejected, and will under no circumstances thereafter be enlisted. "Being entirely sober when enlisted" is not sufficient. Under no circumstances will any man be enlisted until after the personal examination of the recruiting officer. The efficiency of recruiting officers will be judged of by the quality rather than the number of the men they enlist, and in every case where a rejecting board reports that the recruiting officer should have known of the defect in the recruit, the superintendent will recommend that the cost of enlistment be charged to the recruiting officer. The best rule for the recruiting officer to follow is to enlist no man he would not be willing to have in his own company, and to give the service rather than the man the benefit of any doubt which may arise regarding his fitness. In every case where it is practicable, men offering to enlist will be required to produce testimonials from their former employers, or respectable citizens of the place, touching their character, habits, etc. It is intended that the military service shall not be a receptacle for all the worthless characters in the country who can obtain no employment elsewhere; but shall furnish rather an opening for energetic, honorable young men, who, after the termination of their five years' service in the Army, may be in position financially and otherwise to make a good start in civil life."

##### DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

**Brigadier-General P. St. G. Cooke:** Headquarters, Detroit, Mich.

**Fort Ontario, N. Y.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Ontario, N. Y., February 5. Detail for the court: Major L. H. Pelouze, assistant adjutant-general; Assistant Surgeon S. A. Storrow, First Lieutenants A. G. Verplanck, Constantine Chase, Henry B. Osgood, Third Artillery. Second Lieutenant Charles W. Whipple, Third Artillery, judge-advocate.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

**Major-Gen. J. M. Schofield:** Headquarters, San Francisco, Cal.

##### DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

In addition to his present duties, A. A. Surgeon W. L. Newlands, U. S. Army, January 21 was directed to attend the sick at Alcatraz Island, California, during the illness of Assistant Surgeon Azpell U. S. Army.

A. A. Surgeon P. H. Humphrey, U. S. Army, January 22 was ordered to report in person to the commanding officer of the Presidio of San Francisco, California, for duty at that post.

**Experimental Arms.**—The experimental arms issued to and turned in at the Presidio by Battery F, Second Artillery, when it left that post, will be issued to Battery K, Fourth Artillery. The commanding officers of Batteries E, G, H, K, and M, Fourth Artillery, have been directed to send to the Chief of Ordnance monthly reports upon the merits of experimental arms received from the Second Artillery, for which purpose proper blanks will be supplied by the commanding officer Benicia Arsenal.

**First Cavalry.**—Troop K, First Cavalry, ordered to Camp Bidwell, California, January 18 was directed to report to the commanding officer District of the Lakes. The relation of the troop to the Department of California will not be otherwise changed.

Troop K (Captain Biddle's), January 18 was ordered to proceed by rail and marches to Camp Bidwell, California, taking two hundred rounds of ammunition per man, and the supplies necessary for the trip.

Captain James Biddle, on duty at San Francisco, January 20 was ordered to join his troop, K, at Reno, Nevada, en route from Camp Halleck, Nevada, to Camp Bidwell, California.

Assistant Surgeon Calvin DeWitt, U. S. Army, at Alcatraz Island, California, January 20 was ordered to Reno, Nevada, reporting to the commanding officer of Troop K, First Cavalry, for duty with the troop en route to Camp Bidwell, California, and after arrival at that post to the post commander for duty either at Camp Bidwell or in the field, as his services may be required.

**Twelfth Infantry.**—Second Lieutenant H. L. Haskell, at San Francisco, January 21 was ordered to report to the commanding officer of Camp Gaston, California, for duty with Company K. As soon as another officer joins this company for duty, Lieutenant Haskell will be relieved, and directed to report in person at department headquarters for orders.

First Lieutenant E. M. Camp, at San Francisco, January 21 was ordered to report to the commanding officer of Benicia Barracks, California, to conduct a detachment of recruits and others en route to join the troops now in the field against the Modoc Indians.

Company G, at Angel Island, California, January 20 was ordered to join the batteries of the Fourth Artillery, under orders to report to Lieutenant-Colonel F. Wheaton, Twenty-first Infantry, commanding District of the Lakes.

Company E (Captain Parker's), with Lieutenants Wright and Kingsbury, January 20 was ordered to report for duty to Lieutenant-Colonel F. Wheaton, Twenty-first Infantry, commanding District of the Lakes, in the field on the west side of Link river, Jackson county, Oregon. The post commander was directed to see that the company was provided with ammunition, the necessary subsistence, shelter tents, and in as light marching order as is consistent with efficiency.

**Fourth Artillery.**—Batteries M (Captain Throckmorton's) and A (Captain Thomas's), under the command

of the senior officer, January 20 were ordered to report for duty to Lieutenant-Colonel F. Wheaton, Twenty-first Infantry, commanding District of the Lakes, and now on the eastern side of Link river, Jackson county, Oregon.

A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Alcatraz Island, California, January 30. Major Henry R. Mizner, Twelfth Infantry, and the following officers of the Fourth Artillery were detailed for the court: Major Charles H. Morgan, First Lieutenants Eugene A. Bancroft, regimental quartermaster, Edward Field, John W. Roder, regimental adjutant, Frederick Fuger, Second Lieutenant John Simpson. Second Lieutenant Peter Leary, Jr., judge-advocate.

##### DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

**Brigadier-General E. R. S. Canby:** Headquarters, Portland, Oregon.

**District of the Lakes.**—Lieutenant Colonel Frank Wheaton.—A San Francisco despatch of the 31st of January announces that the news from the camp of Captain Jack is that he is anxious to have a big talk looking toward peace negotiations. A squaw reports that in the recent fight many of the Modocs were killed and wounded. In the lava beds, after the fight, the Indians quarrelled because Captain Jack did not fight, during which one of the Indians shot Captain Jack through the arm. A big talk was arranged for between Captain Jack and the volunteers, but did not take place, as the Modoc leader would not come out of his camp, and the whites would not go in to it. At Washington a peace commission has been organized, consisting of Hon. A. B. Meacham, late superintendent of Indian affairs for Oregon; Rev. J. H. Wilbur, Indian agent at Simcoe, W. T., and Hon. T. B. Odenseal, present superintendent of Indian affairs for Oregon. They will proceed to the scene of the difficulty, charged with ample powers to hear and adjust all troubles. As they travel all the way from Washington, perhaps they will be more ready to venture into the Modoc lair.

Meanwhile, General Gillem, with his reinforcements, are delayed by the snow. He was reported, February 4, near "Van Bremer's Hill." Captain M. C. Miller, Company E, Fourth Artillery, arrived at Jacksonville, Oregon, February 3, en route for the seat of war. All the wounded in the late battle are at Fort Klamath, and are doing well, except "Jerry Crooks," who cannot live. The troops at Camp Van Bremer at the time of the battle consisted of one company of cavalry under Brevet Colonel David Perry, captain Company F, First Cavalry, two companies of infantry, under Major Edwin C. Mason, Twenty-first Infantry, two companies of Oregon volunteers, under Captains Kelly and Applegate, and one company of volunteers under John A. Fairchild—the whole under General Wheaton.

A despatch to the San Francisco *Chronicle* gives the following particulars of the fight:

"The march from Camp Van Bremer commenced at nine o'clock, the troops moving direct across the mountains toward Captain Jack's camp. Supplies, blankets, howitzers, etc., were placed in wagons, which had to make a detour to the northward, and could get no nearer than the lowest slope of the mountain where the Indians were encamped. The troops arrived at this point at one o'clock, where they waited for the wagons, which did not arrive till after dark. The troops then encamped on the slope, remaining there all Thursday night.

"General Wheaton now saw his error in issuing his order for this movement, for on reaching the summit of the mountain nothing was visible but a deep, impenetrable fog, so dense as to render almost impossible any chance of a successful hunt after the Indians; but it was then too late to draw back, as Bernard had obeyed orders and was already hotly engaged.

"He could not be left to maintain the struggle alone, nor could word reach him to discontinue the fight. There was no time for delay. The troops under Colonel Green were ordered to advance; Captain Fairchild's company was assigned to a position on the left, the infantry under Mason with the Oregon volunteers, and Colonel Perry's company of cavalry mounted. The line thus formed advanced over the rocks and through the chasms of the lava bed.

"They reached within a mile of the Indians without resting; then the Indians commenced firing on them from behind rocks, from out of the dense fog. The soldiers could only fire at random, or at the places from whence came the fire of their foes. The line was reformed while the battle was in progress, Perry being ordered to double back and take a position next to Fairchild to effect a junction with Bernard's men. To do this they had to pass round a bluff, and were exposed to a terrible fire from the Indians. Fairchild's company took the lead. At a certain point two men fell wounded. Fairchild at length gained a point where the men were in comparative safety, and were also enabled to force the Indians to keep within shelter of the rocks. Thus Mason and Perry's commands were enabled to form a junction with Bernard in comparative safety. Colonel Perry was wounded in the passage.

"Bernard now attempted to force the Indians back, to enable Fairchild also to join him. In this he was unsuccessful, as Fairchild's men were obliged to lie down flat on their faces to keep out of the range of Indian bullets, and were obliged to keep in that position until they were joined by Bernard's command, taking their wounded. The howitzers were not used until the battle had been some time in progress, when they were found almost useless, owing to the density of the fog and the ignorance of the whereabouts of the Indians, and also for fear of injuring Bernard's men.

"The line continued to advance, suffering considerably till the chasm was reached, in which Captain Jack has had his stronghold. This chasm extends through the entire lava bed and has never been thoroughly explored. In some places it is but a few feet across, in others over fifty and very deep. Colonel Green's troops, on reaching the brink of the chasm, attempted to charge it, but were met with such a storm of bullets that the troops faltered in dismay.

"The attempt was then abandoned, and orders were



issued to concentrate their forces on the shores of the lake, with a view of forcing a passage through to Bernard's command. By this time it was too late in the afternoon. The two portions of the force fighting the Indians had been engaged for several hours within a mile of each other without being able to communicate neither knowing the other's situation, nor what advantages had been gained. Arrangements had been made to communicate by signals, but the fog put an effectual stop to all intercourse by these means. For this reason Fairchild's forces were sent forward together with Mason's and Perry's.

"Fairchild had four wounded in the passage.

"Shortly before sundown the fog lifted sufficiently to give a chance to the Signal Corps to work. General Wheaton was thus enabled to communicate with Captain Bernard, to whom he sent orders to withdraw his men and take a position for the night and return to camp the next day. Wheaton himself fell back to his camp of the previous evening. Thus ended the battle of the Lava Bed."

The casualties reported so far received give the number of killed and wounded as follows:

KILLED.—Regulars, 8; Oregon volunteers, 2. Total, 10.

WOUNDED.—Regulars, 25; volunteers, 4. Total, 29. The wounded were taken to Fort Klamath, here they received every attention necessary. The number of the Indians under Captain Jack cannot be conjectured, but are estimated at about two hundred.

This estimate of numbers will be found, we believe, to be much in excess of the fact. All accounts agree that the Modocs fought with extraordinary courage, and they are finding champions for their cause in the California and Oregon papers. It is urged that, always a warlike tribe and with but a remnant of their former host remaining they have been true to their treaty stipulations and have for many years been friendly and peaceable in their dealings with their white neighbors. Their deprivation of their "tule lands"—large marshes abounding in fish, beaver, otter, and wild fowl, and whose advantages excited the cupidity of the whites—was the cause of their present hostile attitude. A physician who has had twenty-two years' acquaintance with the affairs of Siskiyou county, where their lands are situated, and who has had extensive practice among them, writes to the *San Francisco Chronicle* that the Modocs are of stature, appearance, and intelligence, like whites; that many of their women have been married to men of business in that neighborhood, and that their children have been raised, educated, and married in and about Yreka. In his practice among them he has found them surrounded by all the comforts of civilization, and far superior to many whites called citizens. Another writer states that, "They made no secret of their purpose to resist any forcible attempt to remove them, and also to retaliate upon the white settlers. When they attacked the latter they let the women and children go unharmed, and even without insult—a wonderful exhibition of magnanimity considering the light in which their own women have been regarded, and the manner in which they have been treated by white men."

*First Cavalry.*—Colonel Alvan C. Gillem, First Cavalry, was January 23, assigned to the command of the troops in the Modoc country, and ordered to proceed without delay to the headquarters of those troops where he has already arrived, reporting by letter to the commanding officer of the Department of the Columbia.

#### DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

*Lieutenant-Colonel George Crook: Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.*

*Fifth Cavalry.*—Major Eugene A. Carr, January 15 was ordered to his station in the Department of Arizona, via Los Angeles, California.

ON motion of Mr. Buckley, the following resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives on the 1st inst.:

"Resolved, That the Secretary of War is hereby requested to furnish the following information concerning the Army retired list: The names and retired rank of officers retired in a higher grade than that held by them in the regular Army; the rank by regular commission and by brevet held by each officer in the regular Army when examined by the retiring board on the proceedings and findings of which he was afterwards retired; the rank and command held by each officer in the regular Army and in the volunteer force when wounded, as shown by the findings of said retiring board; all the commissions held by each officer in the line and by brevet both in the regular Army and in the volunteer force while in the military service of the United States, and what each particular brevet commission was granted for; the date of original entry into the service as enlisted man or commissioned officer, and what the length of such service rendered by each in the field with troops since the time of original entry, and particularly in Florida against hostile Indians, in the Mexican war, and the late war of the rebellion, and on the frontier."

It is in contemplation to dispense with the *Idaho* as a store-ship at Yokohama, and instead to obtain suitable storehouses on shore at Nagasaki. The maintenance of the vessel is expensive, and she lies in a position which is both dangerous and inconvenient, being greatly exposed to the prevailing heavy winds. The hospital is now completed, and there is no necessity for using the *Idaho* for such purposes. If the proper arrangements can be made, and suitable storehouses secured on shore, the *Idaho* will no doubt be sold. She is not in a condition to be sent alone to the California coast without expensive repairs, and independently of this, is not such a vessel as it is desirable to keep in the Navy. The sooner the Department gets clear of such encumbrances and supplies their places with vessels of proper model and size, such as the bill before Congress contemplates, the better will it be for the Navy and the country.

## THE NAVY.

### VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE *Richmond* went to sea from Hampton Roads, January 31, having been detained by eastern winds.

CAPTAIN W. F. Spicer relieved Captain S. P. Quackenbush of the command of the *Terror* at Key West January 25.

THE nomination of Pay Director J. O. Bradford to be Paymaster-General U. S. Navy, was unanimously confirmed by the Senate.

MED. Director Duvall, Medical Inspector Browne, Surgeons Shane, Hugg, and Bush were confirmed January 27 in their corrected dates.

THE *Harford* arrived at Malta December 10, where she would be detained a few days in making some alterations in the steam department.

LIEUTENANT Henry C. Cochran, U. S. M. C., delivered a lecture before the Institute at Chester, Penn., on Monday, the 3d instant. Subject: "Whales and Whaling."

It is announced that Commodore M. B. Woolsey, at present a member of the Examining Board at Washington, is to take command of the *Pensacola* Navy-yard on the 1st of March next.

A MOVEMENT has been made to increase the number of the Marine band at Washington, now thirty, and secure a new and accomplished leader, and procure a new uniform for the band.

THE *Powhatan* and *Saugus*, en route to Key West, stopped in at Tybee Roads January 30, and would be there about four days repairing the main valve of the *Saugus*.

THE *Pawnee* sailed from Pensacola January 28 for Key West, having failed to reach that point on the previous occasion of leaving Pensacola. She is to report for duty in the North Atlantic Fleet.

THE *Narragansett*, Commander R. W. Meade, which arrived at Callao, Peru, January 1, sixty-five days from Sydney, Australia, is to be prepared and fitted for surveying service in the Pacific.

THE *Guard* was commissioned at the Brooklyn Navy-Yard February 1, and the *Supply* will probably go into commission February 8, and will be towed to Boston to obtain her cargo for the Vienna Exposition.

THE Supreme Court of the District of Columbia has fixed Tuesday, February 11, for the final hearing of the claimants for prize money, amounting to \$202,000, accruing from the appraisement of the captured rebel ram *Albatross*.

THE *Zuscarora*, Commander Geo. E. Belknap, arrived at Panama, January 1, where she was to receive on board Commander Selfridge and the surveying party under him. The officers and crew of the vessel are reported in excellent health.

THE *Kansas*, of the Nicaragua survey, arrived at Aspinwall, January 1, having landed Commander Lull, and party at San Juan del Norte. She expected to return to Greytown, January 5, and to be back to Aspinwall by the time of the arrival of the mail steamer of January 20, from New York. Officers and crew all well.

REAR-ADMIRAL Chas. Steedman, commanding South Pacific Station, arrived at Talcahuana, Chili, in his flagship, the *Pensacola*, December 4, after a tedious passage of thirty-two days from Payta, Peru. He expected to remain until December 12, and then proceed to Valparaiso, which would be his headquarters during the summer months.

A MARINE General Court-martial convened at the Navy-yard, Norfolk, on January 29, for the trial of William Acton and such other privates of the Marine Corps as might be brought before it. The following compose the court: Captains Charles Heywood and George W. Collier; First Lieutenants Charles F. Williams, James M. T. Young, and D. B. Mannix. Captain W. G. Remy, judge-advocate.

PAY Director Geo. F. Cutter, it is said, will succeed Pay Director Bradford in the Pay Office at New York, when the latter takes charge of the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing. Paymaster Plunkett, who has been spoken of as successor to Paymaster Bradford, will remain in charge of the Pay Office at Boston. It is also rumored that either Pay Inspector C. P. Wallack or W. W. Williams will succeed Pay Director G. F. Cutter at the Brooklyn Navy-yard.

A BILL is before the Naval Committee in the House to "advance Egbert Thompson, now a captain on the active list of the Navy, to his relative academic position on the active list, the same positions held by him prior to the promotions of 1866 namely, seven numbers: Provided, That the passage of this act shall not entitle the said Egbert Thompson to draw any additional back pay." As Captain Thompson is not a graduate of the Naval Academy, it is not clear what is to be understood by academic position in this bill.

THE route already surveyed by Commander T. O. Selfridge for a ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien, requires a canal of about thirty-two miles in length, for which the estimated cost amounts to \$75,000,000. This winter it is hoped to shorten this some four or five miles, by which the estimates will be reduced to about sixty million dollars. The prospect of being able to do this is now good, and should it prove to be well founded the success of the canal project will be assured.

THE Senate on January 27 confirmed the following nominations, and all the naval nominations submitted to it as per lists previously published: First Assistant James P. Sprague to be chief engineer; Second Assistants H. C. Ross, Jefferson Brown, and John C. Kafer, to be first assistants; Nicholas H. Lamden to be a second assistant on the active list, as authorized by act of Congress, from May 23, 1872.

AN Italian merchant vessel, the *San Giuseppe*, came very near being shipwrecked on the 11th December last,

near the Villefranche light-house, and was in such a situation as deemed prudent by her officers and crew to abandon her, taking refuge in one of her boats. The *Wabash* was at the time laying in the harbor of Villefranche and the senior commanding officer present sent a small steamer with boats, to the assistance of the *San Giuseppe*, and after a few hours' toil she was saved. The Italian Government in appreciation of this service has asked that his thanks be conveyed to the officer in command on the station for the assistance so generously rendered; which has been done through the usual channels.

PAY Director Jno. S. Cunningham has been ordered on special duty in connection with the Vienna Exposition. He will first report on board the U. S. ship *Guard* at New York for such duty as relates to the shipment of American offerings to the Exhibition, under the general direction of General Van Buren, the U. S. Commissioner. Afterwards he will proceed by steam to Europe, meeting the *Guard* at Trieste, and assist the Commissioners in forwarding the articles to their destination. When the Exposition opens in May he is to examine specimens of industry and skill, and make a general report on such as may possess interest to the U. S. Navy, and particularly to the Provision, Clothing, Small-stores, and Pay department. Paymaster Cunningham is a writer of considerable ability, an officer of acute observation and good judgment withal, and will no doubt furnish an interesting and valuable report of his proceedings.

THE competing models for the Farragut statue have been received by the Senate Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds from J. Wilson McDonald, B. W. Pickett, Mr. Drischeler, and Giovanni Turini, of New York city; Miss Vinnie Ream and J. Fisk Mills, of Washington; J. M. Ezekiel, of Berlin; and Randolph Rogers, of Rome. Horatio Stone, of Washington, has notified the Committee that his model is not yet completed, and one expected from W. H. Philip, of Brooklyn, has also not yet been received. All of these models are in miniature, except that by Vinnie Ream, which is of heroic size. This artist is at work at the Capitol on it, repairing the damage it received on Saturday, February 1, by the carelessness of the persons engaged in its removal. The committees of the House and Senate held a joint session February 4, for the purpose of hearing the representatives of the competing artists.

THE Commission for the settlement of the claims of the late Admiral Farragut and the officers and sailors who fought under him at New Orleans for bounty and prize-money, has been in session in Washington for several days and will soon announce its decision. The Commission consists of Captain Fox, of Lowell, Mass., formerly Assistant Secretary of the Navy; T. J. Durant, of Washington, and H. W. Paine, of Boston. There has been a long delay in the matter, which General Butler, the counsel for the claimants, has finally urged to a close. It will be recollected that the claim was taken out of the hands of the Washington District Court and given to the Commission, and as the decision is soon to be made in favor of giving the claimants nearly \$1,000,000, it is thought that an appeal will be taken from the decision to the Supreme Court by the counsel for the Government, so that the money will not be forthcoming at present.

JAMES ORD, father of General E. O. C. Ord, of the U. S. Army, the present commander of the Department of the Platte, lately died in Omaha City, at the residence of General Ord. Mr. Ord was born in London, in 1786, but was educated in Georgetown College, District of Columbia, and graduated in 1808. He entered the Navy, where he served as passed midshipman till 1811, when he was transferred to the Army, and served as a lieutenant until 1814. Mr. Ord, who was a man of varied culture, after retiring from the Navy resided many years at Washington, and occupied positions of trust under every administration from Jefferson to Taylor. During the last eighteen years he resided on the Pacific coast, and until he went to Omaha in May, 1872. He leaves a numerous family of adult sons, all of whom hold honorable and several, conspicuous positions, and one daughter, the wife of Samuel W. Holladay, Esq.

THE *World's* Washington "Society" correspondent, writing under date of February 1, says: "Mrs. Robeson had her first reception of this season, and, as the only receptions she has had since her marriage were late in the spring last year, this may be called her first official reception. Secretary Robeson lent a willing assistance to his agreeable wife, who was further aided by the Misses Stout, Miss Worden, daughter of Commodore Worden, and Miss Wise. The Secretary of the Navy has a beautiful home, containing choice works of art, ornaments, and curiosities. The latest addition is the skin of a polar bear sent by Captain Hall, of the *Polaris*, through Europe. It arrived but a short time since, and is the latest despatch from the expedition. The fur is long, soft, and white, with a silvery sheen upon it. The bear must have been of enormous size, for the distance between the ears, which I am told indicates the size of the animal, must measure nearly if not quite eighteen inches."

IN the House of Representatives, January 13, 1873, Mr. Negley, on leave, introduced the following bill to regulate and establish the grade of certain officers in the United States Navy, which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That boatswains, gunners, carpenters, and sail-makers in the United States Navy shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and shall have rank and pay as officers of the Navy.

SEC. 2. That, for the first five years from date of appointment or entry into the Navy, to have assimilated rank with ensigns, after ten years from date of original appointment or entry into the Navy, to have assimilated rank with masters; and after fifteen years from date of original appointment or entry into the Navy, to have assimilated rank with lieutenants.

SEC. 3. That boatswains, gunners, carpenters, and



sailmakers in the United States Navy shall have pay the same as officers with whom they have assimilated rank.

SEC. 4. That nothing in this act shall be so construed as giving to boatswains, gunners, carpenters, and sailmakers in the United States Navy any additional rights to quarters or authority, but shall give way to line officers, according to the established usages and customs of the Navy; nor shall they exercise any additional rights or authority out or in the line of their respective duties as boatswain, gunner, carpenter, and sailmaker, to quarters or authority, but shall give way to line officers, according to the established usages and customs of the Navy; nor shall they exercise any additional rights or authority out or in the line of their respective duties as boatswain, gunner, carpenter, and sailmaker.

## NAVY GAZETTE.

### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

#### ORDERED.

JANUARY 29.—Lieutenant-Commander John J. Read, to the receiving ship Vermont, at New York.  
Master Charles W. Chipp, to the Junata on the 5th February.  
First Assistant Engineer John A. Scott, to the Naval Station, League Island, Pa.

Boatswain John A. Brisco, to the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.  
JANUARY 30.—Ensign Samuel P. Comley, to the receiving ship Potomac, at Philadelphia.

FEBRUARY 3.—Paymaster Rufus Parks, to the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., on the 1st April next.  
Passed Assistant Paymaster J. Bayard Redfield, to the Monocacy, Asiatic Station, per steamer of the 1st March next.  
Acting Sailmaker Garrett Van Mater, to the Junata.

#### DETACHED.

JANUARY 29.—Lieutenant-Commander Edward N. Kellogg, from the receiving ship Vermont, and ordered to the Junata as executive.

Lieutenant John F. Merry, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the Junata.

Lieutenant Hamilton F. Perkins, from the Constellation, and ordered to the Junata.

Master H. M. Tallman, from the receiving ship Vermont, and placed on sick leave.

Acting Boatswain Peter Huckins, from the receiving ship New Hampshire, and ordered to the Junata.

Acting Gunner M. K. Henderson, from the receiving ship Ohio, and ordered to the Junata.

Acting Carpenter L. L. Martin, from the receiving ship New Hampshire, and ordered to the Junata.

JANUARY 30.—Lieutenant Thomas M. Gardner, from the receiving ship Sabine, and ordered to command the tug Mayflower.

FEBRUARY 3.—Passed Assistant Paymaster C. D. Mansfield, from the Monocacy, on reporting of relief, and ordered to return to the United States.

Pay Inspector W. W. Williams, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., on reporting of relief, and ordered to settle accounts.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

JANUARY 29.—Lieutenant Uriel Sebree, granted four months' leave from January 29.

#### RESIGNED.

JANUARY 30.—First Assistant Engineer John Purdy, Jr.

#### REVOKED.

Second Assistant Engineer Henry E. Rhodes' orders to the Junata, and placed on waiting orders.

#### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States which have been reported to the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Navy and chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending February 1, 1873:

Charles T. Hess, ordinary seaman (extra), January 21, hospital, Philadelphia.

John Swanson, mate, January 23, hospital, Chelsea, Mass.

Henry Cassidy, baker, January 17, hospital, Norfolk.

Charles Alfred Anderson, seaman, January 24, hospital, New York.

Albert Schriver, surgeon, January 2, York, Pa.

#### LOCATION OF NAVAL OFFICERS.

We commenced publishing in the JOURNAL of January 4, and will continue until the list is completed, the stations and duties of naval officers, classifying all the officers of one vessel under the heading of her name and fleet, or duty, and officers on the same duty will be placed under the same heading. This register will note all the changes made since July 1, 1872, and will be correct as far as the date of the naval orders published in the JOURNAL of the previous week. The orders published in the same number as the register should be consulted in referring to it. Particular attention has not been given to placing the officers according as they number in the regular Navy Register.

#### NORTH ATLANTIC STATION.

Rear-Admiral—J. F. Green, commanding; Captain—T. B. Creighton, chief of staff; Commander—G. C. Hemy, staff duty; Lieutenant—A. Marx, staff duty; Midshipman—J. J. Hunter, aid to chief of staff; Captain N. L. Nokes, fleet marine officer; Medical Inspector—G. Peck, fleet surgeon; Paymaster—H. M. Denison, fleet paymaster; Chief Engineer—L. B. Macomb, fleet engineer; Admiral's Secretary—J. Mast; Admiral's Clerk—T. M. Elliott; Chief of Staff's Clerk—Lewis Ashmead; Fleet Paymaster's Clerk—F. S. Swift; Asst. Surgeon—H. L. Law.

U. S. Steamer Worcester, flagship, 3d rate (15).—Captain—T. B. Creighton, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander—S. W. Terry, executive officer; C. D. Sigbee, navigator; Lieutenants—C. S. Sperry, W. T. Burwell, G. A. McKinnell, A. Denlap, Jr.; Master—C. A. Bradbury; Ensigns—J. H. Moore, C. H. Lyman, J. B. Milton; Midshipman—L. L. Reamey; P. Asst. Surgeon—W. S. Bowen; Asst. Surgeon—C. L. Cassin; First Asst. Engineers—G. W. Lester, R. B. Rine; Unalpin—G. A. Crawford; Boatswain—W. S. Bond; Gunner—T. B. Watkins; Carpenter—F. Ward; Sailmaker—W. Whitney; Pay Clerk—J. E. Gilchrist. Second Lieutenant of Marines—S. W. Quackenbush.

U. S. Steamer Powhatan, 2d rate (17).—Captain—P. Crosby, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander—J. O. Kane, executive officer; Lieutenants—A. Walker, navigator; J. M. Grimes; Masters—R. C. Derby, T. M. Etting, J. F. Wallis; Surgeon—J. McMasters; Asst. Surgeons—S. A. Brown, M. H. Simons; Paymaster—L. G. Ballings; Chief Engineer—W. W. Dungan; First Asst. Engineer—A. W. Morley; Second Asst. Engineers—J. W. Gardner, H. Webster, G. Cowie, Jr.; Boatswain—J. C. Walton; Gunner—J. Smith; Carpenter—J. Cooper; Sailmaker—G. U. Boerum; Captain's Clerk—J. de B. Higgins; Pay Clerk—J. A. Delves. First Lieutenant of Marines—J. C. Morgan.

U. S. Steamer Richmond, 2d rate (14).—Captain—T. Pattison, commanding; Lieutenant-Commanders—U. L. Huntington, executive officer; G. E. Wingate, navigator; Lieutenants—F. M. Gove, J. J. Brice, W. W. Reisinger; Master—C. P. Perkins; Ensigns—R. F. Fickelbohm, J. B. Collins; Midshipmen—H. C. Nye, C. F. Emmerick, M. C. Dimock, F. H. Geutsch, F. L. Ludlow, F. Ellery, Jr.; Surgeon—B. E. Gibbs; Asst. Surgeon—C. A. Bagfried; Paymaster—G. E. Hendee; Chief Engineer—J. W. Thompson, Jr.; First Asst. Engineer—N. P. Towne; Second Asst. Engineer—R. Inch; Boatswain—J. Harding; Acting Gunner—D. W. Burroughs; Acting Carpenter—G. W. Davis; Acting Sailmaker—H. C. Shandley. First Lieutenant of Marines—E. F. Meeker.

U. S. Steamer Canandaigua, 3d rate (10).—Captain—W. Bonck-

endorff, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander—A. G. Caldwell, executive officer; Lieutenants—C. M. Anthony, navigator; W. P. Randall, S. Schroeder; Masters—T. A. De Bois, L. E. Bixler; Surgeon—H. M. Wells; Asst. Surgeon—G. P. Bradley; P. Asst. Paymaster—C. W. Slamm; Chief Engineers—O. H. Lackey, R. Albert; First Asst. Engineer—H. H. Cline; Second Asst. Engineer—W. H. Platt; Acting Boatswain—P. Johnson; Gunner—J. W. Bogert; Carpenter—T. McGlone; Sailmaker—G. S. Haskins. Second Lieutenant of Marines—S. K. Allen.

U. S. Steamer Wyoming, 3d rate (6).—Commander—F. H. Baker, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander—M. S. Johnson, executive officer; Lieutenants—C. A. Scheeky, navigator; C. T. Hutchins, C. H. West, A. R. Couden, B. S. Richards; Master—A. B. Wyckoff; Ensign—B. G. Peck; Midshipmen—C. G. Calkins, G. A. Vail, G. W. Ments; Surgeon—T. Hiland; Asst. Surgeon—W. H. McDonald; Paymaster—J. Linsley, Jr.; Chief Engineer—G. D. Emmons; First Asst. Engineer—H. Snyder; Second Asst. Engineer—R. W. Milligan; Acting Boatswain—W. Nelson; Gunner—J. A. McDonald.

U. S. Steamer Shawmut, 3d rate (3).—Commander—H. L. Howison, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander—G. H. Wadleigh, executive officer; Lieutenants—W. A. Morgan, navigator; A. B. Lillie, Master—W. W. Kimball; Ensign—J. W. Graydon; P. Asst. Surgeon—E. H. Ware; P. Asst. Paymaster—J. Foster; First Asst. Engineer—G. M. L. Macarty; Second Asst. Engineer—C. D. Foss.

U. S. Steamer Nipsic, 3d rate (3).—Commander—R. L. Phythian, commanding; Lieutenants—S. Belden, executive officer; C. H. Judd, navigator; Masters—A. P. Osborn, A. M. Thackara; Asst. Surgeon—J. M. Scott; P. Asst. Paymaster—J. A. Barton; First Asst. Engineer—A. S. Greene; Second Asst. Engineer—W. H. Lamden.

U. S. Steamer Terror (iron clad), 3d rate (4).—Captain—W. F. Spicer, commanding; Lieutenants—A. H. Fletcher, executive officer; C. M. Thomas, navigator; F. W. Nichols, F. A. Miller; Masters—W. W. Beck, H. Setley; Surgeon—G. H. Cooke; Acting Assistant Surgeon—T. Owens; P. Assistant Paymaster—H. C. Machette; Chief Engineer—E. Lewis; First Assistant Engineer—T. Philippi; Second Assistant Engineers—F. C. Burchard, C. F. Purdie, G. E. Drinen.

U. S. Steamer Sangus (iron-clad), 4th rate (2).—Commander—A. E. K. Benham, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander—E. T. Woodward, executive officer; Lieutenants—A. J. Iverson, navigator; E. W. Watson, S. F. Clark; Assistant Surgeon—W. B. Davis; Assistant Paymaster—S. R. Culhoun; First Assistant Engineer—H. D. McEwan, J. Entwistle; Second Assistant Engineers—A. C. Esgard, C. J. Habighorst, E. F. McEnell.

U. S. Storeship Paines, 3d rate (2).—Key West, Fla.—Lieutenant-Commander—E. C. Merriam, commanding; Master—W. B. Arant; Mate—W. E. Rattigan; Surgeon—F. L. Dubois; Assistant Surgeon—C. U. Gray; Assistant Paymaster—C. H. Bartlett; Acting Gunner—C. B. Magruder.

#### SOUTH ATLANTIC STATION.

Rear-Admiral—William Taylor, commanding; Captain—C. H. C. Caldwell, chief of staff; Lieutenant—S. W. Very, staff duty; Captain—F. B. Munroe, fleet marine officer; Medical Inspector—W. T. Ford, fleet surgeon; Paymaster—R. Washington, fleet paymaster; Chief Engineer—F. C. Dade, fleet engineer; Admiral's Secretary—H. Tidale; Admiral's Clerk—J. T. Bush; Chief of Staff's Clerk—H. Harleston; Fleet Paymaster's Clerk—H. McCann.

U. S. Steamer Lancaster, flagship, 2d rate (22).—Captain C. H. B. Caldwell, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander—E. A. Walker, executive officer; G. W. Wood, navigator; C. O'Neill; Lieutenants—J. S. Newell, E. S. Houston, W. T. Swinburne, E. H. Green, E. W. Sturdy, M. Bolles; Masters—A. P. Nazro, C. E. Colahan, W. Kellogg, A. G. Berry, W. H. Driggs; Midshipmen—W. H. E. Masser, J. Medary, W. C. Hancock, O. W. Lowry; P. Assistant Surgeon—M. C. Drennan; Assistant Surgeon—B. F. Fassig; First Assistant Engineers—B. C. Gowing, A. Price; Second Assistant Engineer—W. B. Bayley; Chaplain—F. B. Ross; Boatswain—J. McDonald; Gunner—E. Mack; Acting Carpenter—B. E. Farnold; Sailmaker—G. D. Macy. Second Lieutenant of Marines—R. D. Wainwright.

U. S. Steamer Ticonderoga, 3d rate (11).—Captain—O. C. Badger, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander—C. S. Cotton, executive officer; E. S. Keyser, navigator; Lieutenants—G. Tacott, Jr., G. G. Clay, R. Clover, C. O. Audbone; Ensigns—R. Mitchell; Surgeon—E. S. Matthews; Assistant Surgeon—A. Mackie, Jr.; Paymaster—F. H. Hinman; Chief Engineer—E. Farmer; First Assistant Engineer—L. W. Robinson; Boatswain—J. Burrows; Gunner—F. Cassidy; Carpenter—W. Barnard; Sailmaker—G. W. Giet. First Lieutenant of Marines—A. L. Watson.

U. S. Steamer Wasp, 4th rate (1).—Commander—A. T. Mahan, commanding; Lieutenants—W. B. Newman, executive officer; C. H. Arnold, navigator; P. Assistant Surgeon—W. S. Fort; Assistant Paymaster—E. E. Lewis; First Assistant Engineer—E. Olson.

The following order has been issued by the Superintendent of the Naval Academy:

U. S. NAVAL ACADEMY, ANNAPOLIS, MD.,

January 31, 1873.

Order No. 17.

The noble and gallant efforts made by Cadet Midshipmen John C. Colwell and George Stoney to rescue from drowning the late John K. Arnold when he broke through the ice on the Severn river on the night of the 13th inst., have been made the subject of laudatory resolutions by a number of that unfortunate gentleman's friends and neighbors.

The endeavors made by Cadet Midshipmen Colwell and Stoney were none the less worthy because they were fruitless.

The motive that prompted them to hazard their own lives in efforts to save a drowning man is deserving of all commendation, and the superintendent feels the greatest gratification in thus publicly acknowledging his admiration for the gallantry displayed by them upon that trying occasion, and in expressing to each of them his thanks.

Heroic actions have ever won and deserved the plaudits of man in all ages of the world, and no deed of heroism is more worthy of praise than that unselfish kind where one places in serious jeopardy his own life in behalf of a suffering fellow-man.

Young lives upon whose opening pages such instances of true courage and humanity are written, give the best ground for a reasonable hope that they will bear an abundance of fruit to the honor of the country they serve, and in the cause of humanity as well.

The Superintendent will take pleasure in bringing to the notice of the Department the worthy conduct of Cadet Midshipmen Colwell and Stoney, in the confident belief that their gallant act will not be passed by without further recognition.

This order will be read at evening parade.

The resolutions referred to will also be read and returned to the files of the Academy.

(Signed) JOHN L. WORDEN,  
Rear-Admiral and Sup't Naval Academy.

The following are the resolutions referred to, and which were passed at a meeting of the citizens of the third district of Anne Arundel County, to whom was presented a communication from Midshipman John C. Colwell, giving the particulars of the drowning of Mr. Arnold.

Resolved, That we acknowledge with heartfelt gratitude the very courageous manner in which Midshipmen John C. Colwell and

George Stoney, of the U. S. Naval Academy, tried to rescue our esteemed friend and fellow-citizen, Mr. John K. Arnold, who broke through the ice while crossing the Severn river at Annapolis, Md., from drowning.

Resolved, That we look upon the conduct of Mr. Colwell as one of the most meritorious acts which has ever come under our knowledge, for which we take this method of making our acknowledgment.

Resolved, That we also tender our thanks to Admiral Worden and the officers in command at the Naval Academy, also to Mate Perry, of the steamer *Phlox*, for their assistance from time to time in giving his family every facility in their power to rescue the deceased from a watery grave.

Resolved, That we will ever remember these acts of kindness. Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to each of the Annapolis papers, a copy to Admiral Worden, also a copy each to Midshipmen John C. Colwell and George Stoney.

## THE TORPEDO DISCUSSION.

### CAPTAIN ERICSSON AND THE LAY TORPEDO.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Mr. John Ericsson begins an article in your issue of the 11th instant with my name, and designates a fore-runner article of mine as a "semi-official letter." Permit me to commence herewith the reduction of the inaccuracies of Mr. John Ericsson's letter by informing him that my article had no prearranged support from the Navy Department, or from the Board of which I had the honor to be a member, and therefore it was not, truthfully speaking, a "semi-official letter." This would appear to be Mr. Ericsson's second view of the case when he says: "The tone of Commander Kirkland's letter leads to the supposition that it had not been submitted to nor received the sanction of the Board previous to publication—a supposition by no means implying censure on Commander Kirkland for the course he has seen fit to adopt."

Again, in speaking of the Lay torpedo and of the substitute proposed by him, he says: "I propose to examine the leading features of the plan approved of, and at the same time correct the erroneous calculations and serious mistakes of Commander Kirkland regarding my movable submarine torpedo." Now I propose that the settlement of the amount of gratitude which is due Mr. Ericsson for his delicacy in not implying censure on me for the course I have seen fit to adopt be postponed until the corrections of my erroneous calculations and serious mistakes regarding Mr. Ericsson's movable submarine torpedo be clearly demonstrated by figures and admissible proofs; because circles with lines radiating from the centre, as in Mr. Ericsson's neatly calculated drawing and his beautiful theory thereon no more prevent the actual destructive force of the 500 pounds of nitro-glycerine, of which the drawing and theory are supposed to treat, than does Mr. Ericsson's simple assertion of erroneous calculation on my part proves such to be necessarily the case, or his careful location of his own movable submarine torpedo under the bilge of the vessel in the aforesaid drawing proves the feasibility of such an undertaking at the present day otherwise than with imaginary ships located according to Mr. Ericsson's theoretical plans.

The thanks which Mr. Ericsson appears to think himself entitled to from the scientific portion of the community will, no doubt, be forthcoming so soon as he shall have proved his ability to carry out practically the statements which he makes. While the inaccuracies of my calculations, and the serious mistakes which I am supposed to have committed regarding Mr. Ericsson's movable submarine torpedo, shall be acknowledged and corrected so soon as he shall furnish a proof of the first and a tangible form of the much lauded instrument—one not carrying theoretical freights, towing a theoretical tubular cable a theoretical number of knots per hour, nor requiring to be theoretically placed under the bottom of a ship in order to cause her theoretical destruction.

Mr. Ericsson's general tone and his assertion that "maritime nations have accepted the proposition that a successful introduction of a submarine structure capable of being propelled rapidly and directed with certainty under water will compel a complete change of the present system of attack and defence," would lead persons unacquainted with Mr. Ericsson's style to expect to find in some one of his following sentences the word "Eureka" backed by some intelligent and apparently practical demonstration; but a further perusal of his letter does not justify such probable expectation, and therefore we must suppose that, so far as he is concerned, there will be no change of the present system, because his proposed movable submarine torpedo, although theoretically a rapid traveller under water, when once submerged, and beyond the range of Mr. Ericsson's directing eye, would quite possibly take up a line of its own, without regard to the direct route which the inventor may have traced for it on paper. As, however, Mr. Ericsson claims to have a supply of motive power theoretically inexhaustible, the uncertainty of its wanderings might only be attended with loss of time, as the machine might be hauled back by the cable, and made to "try, try again," provided always the said tubular cable had not fouled any obstructions, in which case, of course, a trial of strength might be accidentally brought on between the tube and the obstruction, and a rupture of the first would be apt to cause the operator considerable delay and labor, to say nothing of the loss of cable, which would be difficult to repair speedily and efficiently.

Mr. Ericsson says that "the original idea of destroying ships by explosive substances carried by rafts and similar structures floating level with the surface of the water has been long abandoned on account of their insufficient destructive power and the facility with which their approach may be prevented by the party attacked."

Now, as the English government has recently concluded the purchase of a number of Harvey's sea torpedoes, a similar purchase having been previously made by the United States; and, as these torpedoes are structures which are towed at the surface of the water and directed against the ship to be attacked, and as the Lay torpedo, on account of its actual performance, and of the various methods in which it can be utilized, has been



approved and purchased at the suggestion of a Board of experienced officers, Mr. Ericsson's opinion on that subject appears to be of comparatively little value, and it is possible to account for his assertion, as above, on the supposition that, being wedded to the infallibility of his own opinion, he has not thought proper to keep himself posted with regard to facts. As Mr. Ericsson does, however, admit the possibility of a successful use of the Lay torpedo in night attacks, there is reason to hope that the dogma of his infallibility is beginning to succumb to the weight of reason, and that in time he may be brought to admit that, in case of any emergency, from 500 to 1,000 of Lay's torpedoes might be turned out of the workshops of the country "in eight weeks" (the time proposed by Mr. Ericsson as necessary to furnish a like number of his theories), should it be found that insulated wire cable can be manufactured as rapidly as the tubular cable used by Mr. Ericsson.

The circle with radiating lines, by the study of which Mr. Ericsson appears to have deluded himself into an actual contempt for the destructive power of 500 pounds of nitro-glycerine, might be still further drawn on by a judicious location of its centre to warrant a belief on the part of those unacquainted with the explosive that the destructive effect of nitro-glycerine, which, according to Mr. Ericsson, "has been greatly overrated," is, when theoretically located by that gentleman, so small as to be nearly harmless. Part of the figure (1) which Mr. Ericsson explains in his theory, represents, or is supposed to do so, the space which "a charge of 500 pounds of explosive matter of the same specific gravity as water" will occupy. Now, as nitro-glycerine is the explosive which we have mentioned as the one to be used, and as it and its equivalents in explosive force are the compounds to which we propose to confine ourselves, and also Mr. Ericsson, in this discussion, it would be as well to state that its specific gravity is 1.6, and that consequently the space laid off in Mr. Ericsson's drawing would hold nearer 800 than 500 pounds of that compound, and consequently, even if Mr. Ericsson's demonstration, that "only 1-10 of the initial force of the explosion will be brought to bear on the plate at f and m," were correct, we should have a force of 80 as compared with Mr. Ericsson's erroneous calculation of 50.

The inference which can be drawn from this demonstration is that, without, however directly committing himself, Mr. Ericsson wishes us to believe that the explosive effect of nitro-glycerine would be expended in the lines of least resistance. This does not accord with facts derived from practical experience. Professor Hill, professor of chemistry at the U. S. Naval Torpedo Station, says that "the violent explosives (those detonating perfectly) act equally in all directions, and do not require much tamping or great confinement. Practically, against the same target, 2 lbs. of nitro-glycerine will do as much work if one foot under water as if twenty; therefore the water between the ship's side and the sides of a torpedo will not be sprayed, but the blow will be delivered with crushing effect, and directly, the water not having time to move. In regard to the circle with radiating lines it can only be said that it does not fairly represent explosive action. It is true that a given force does diminish as the cube of the distance, as, e. g., intensity of light, sound, etc.; but there are elements entering into explosive action which have an important bearing, and should be considered. I do not think that there can be a shadow of a doubt but that 500 pounds of nitro-glycerine could make fragments of the target Mr. Ericsson speaks of, or of one three times as strong. It ought to be tried experimentally in order to supply something definite in place of such incorrect and useless demonstrations as that of Mr. Ericsson.

"I think that the greatest difficulty with Mr. Ericsson's explosive notions is that he does not seem to understand what explosive action is, or what explosive effect; therefore to compare an explosion with a simple transmission of force is utterly fallacious.

"The conclusion I would make is that, since he does not apprehend the first essential functions, his attempt at the calculation of the problem is useless."

Professor Abel says that the force of Nobel's dynamite (a form of nitro-glycerine) and of gun-cotton is about the same under certain conditions, and that both of these have, as compared with gunpowder, about six times the force of the latter. From the experiments at Chatham we learn through official sources that 400 pounds of gun-cotton placed 40 feet from the bottom of a strongly built vessel, when exploded, blew her bottom to pieces; and here we have another instance of Mr. Ericsson's ignorance of facts in his dogmatical assertion of the comparatively harmless effect of 500 pounds of nitro-glycerine against the side of a twelve-inch armored iron ship, whereby he appears to have convinced himself of "the unsatisfactory nature of the destructive power of the torpedo boat."

In taking up the description of the Lay torpedo, as furnished by a newspaper correspondent, and allowing his criticising powers the latitude which is widest in his examination "of the leading features of the plan approved of," it might perhaps have been more creditable to Mr. Ericsson's practical ability had he assured himself of the fact of the assertion, that "forward of this reel compartment is that in which the driving and steering machinery is located, and still further forward is the mechanism for steering, which will be presently explained;" because in reality he has assumed the position in which the cart comes before the horse; and, from this apparent carelessness in acquiring the requisite information, it is very easy to see how Mr. Ericsson has allowed himself to be deluded into the idea of "the extraordinary complication of the mechanism applied within the boat," and his consequent inability to perceive the "extreme simplicity" which is the great value of the machine.

In his enumeration of the motors requisite to the Lay torpedo Mr. Ericsson appears to have counted until fatigued, and then to have stopped. He says: "The description informs us that two distinct motors are necessary to start the third motor, which actuates the propeller, and that other motors are required to operate

the rudder." This loose style of description is rather calculated to bewilder those who really desire to know something of Mr. Lay's capital invention. The fact is, however, that Mr. Lay uses two motors—one, the electric current by which he operates the valves to admit and shut off the other motor, carbonic acid gas, to and from the cylinders, which not only propel the boat, but are used to steer it accurately.

Now, Mr. Ericsson proposes to use a steam-engine as the motor for his air pumps, and compressed air as the motor for his cylinders in the boat's propulsion. What the motor will be for the steering gear he does not explain; but we presume he will expect to force the compressed air to work the rudder through the same tube as that which conducts the propelling power; however, as the movable submarine torpedo of Mr. Ericsson is to run fifteen feet below the surface, and consequently out of sight of the operator, it may be that no such additional apparatus as a rudder will be necessary, the torpedo, with its "inexhaustible supply" of motive power, being left to seek its antagonist.

The operations attending the preparation of the torpedoes for successive attacks appear to be more or less incident to any form of that instrument. One thing, however, is certain—the liquid carbonic acid in Mr. Lay's tanks does not freeze when allowed to escape, either in the tubes, pipes, reducers, cylinders, or when turned against a wet plank in the open air, on a bitterly cold day.

The "complication of mechanism in which a defective joint or an accident to the exposed pipes renders the entire structure useless" seems to Mr. Ericsson a serious objection; but, as it is the business of mechanics to make joints tight, and as this can always be ascertained beforehand, and, further, as Mr. Ericsson proposes a tubular cable for his own theory, an accident to which would be likely to render "the entire structure useless," it is easy to perceive that, if his objection holds good in one case, it is equally applicable to his own proposed substitute.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. A. KIRKLAND, Commander U. S. Navy.

#### THE TORPEDO QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Permit me to avail myself of the columns of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL to make a general statement in reply to some lengthy communications relating to harbor defence just received, called forth by my articles on the subject of "Movable Torpedoes," published in the JOURNAL:

1. The supposition on the part of my correspondents that I possess but a limited acquaintance with the subject is quite erroneous. The fact is that I planned several movable submarine torpedoes long before the paddle-wheel was abolished in ocean navigation, and that ever since I introduced the present system of screw propulsion for ships-of-war in this country my attention has been specially directed to the subject of submarine attack. It will be proper to add that, while the capability of the screw propeller to operate under water removed one great obstacle in the solution of the problem, the impossibility of storing a sufficient amount of motive energy within the submarine torpedo has retarded its completion.

2. The introduction of the tubular cable having removed the apparently insuperable difficulty adverted to, I can assure those who look upon submarine propulsion as impracticable that there is no difficulty whatever in operating the torpedo under water at any desirable depth, and that the mechanism requisite for keeping the instrument at a given depth below the surface of the water is simple and efficient.

3. The suggestions and advice tendered by some correspondents regarding the means of preventing my cylindrical torpedo from revolving in the water show perfect ignorance of the laws of equilibrium and of the first principles of dynamics. I notice with surprise that Commander Kirkland's assertion, contained in his semi-official letter to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, that the rotation may be prevented by a certain disposition of internal weight, is fully indorsed by my instructors. Apprentices in our technological schools would be reprimanded if asserting that the weight of the machinery within a cylindrical torpedo, only nineteen inches in diameter and ten feet long, propelled by a screw actuated by fifteen horse power, could be so arranged that the rotary action of the propeller would not cause the torpedo to revolve in the water.

4. The objections urged by some of my correspondents against the diagram representing the top view of the English turret ship are frivolous in the extreme. No intelligent person can fail to comprehend that the positions of the approaching surface torpedo represented in the diagram have been selected with a view of demonstrating that its side will be exposed to the diverging fire from the torpedo guns. Evidently it is not necessary that the course should be exactly as shown in the diagram in order to expose the torpedo's side to the diverging fire. It will be readily understood that, if the course be directed, for instance, toward a point near the stern, the side of the torpedo boat will be more completely exposed to the fire from the guns at the bow than represented in the diagram; while the fire from the gun applied amidships will in that case be more effective than shown in the diagram. A moment's consideration will also show that, in whatever direction the approach is made in broad daylight, the diverging fire from the ship's guns will prove destructive to the thin hull of the surface torpedo. As to the effect of rolling in rendering the fire from the torpedo guns inaccurate, which some of my friends lay so much stress upon, I beg to remind them that where the Lay torpedo, with its tender, electric wires, can be safely operated, there is not sea enough to prevent a discharge of grape at short range from doing its work effectually.

5. Regarding my demonstration proving that it will be difficult to start the Lay torpedo under the enemy's fire, i. e., within range of his guns, it will be sufficient to state in answer to the criticisms of the friends of the

Lay system, that various devices might easily be adopted in order to effect a start, provided the electric wire which connects the machinery of the torpedo to the apparatus on shore, possessed adequate strength. But in view of its demonstrated weakness, corroborated by the recent failure at Newport, where notwithstanding great care and very favorable circumstances, a breakage took place before the torpedo had advanced one-third of the intended distance, it will be evident that ingenious expedients will be of no avail in effecting a successful start. Supposing that in place of being despatched under such favorable conditions as those secured in the Newport trials, the Lay torpedo has to be started within range of the guns of a hostile fleet, with a fresh breeze blowing toward the shore, and a rolling sea; will the advocates of the electric wire-torpedo system contend that, under such conditions, a successful start can be made? Again, let us suppose that the torpedo-boat has got safely under way and that the wary enemy moves from his position just before its arrival, the small amount of motive power stored within the torpedo being then nearly exhausted while the strength of the wire is insufficient to admit of the torpedo being hauled in; obviously the costly structure will in such case inevitably be lost.

6. The employment of a submarine torpedo supplied with an efficient continuous motive power, and secured to the shore by a tubular cable capable of sustaining a considerable strain, effectually removes the difficulty of starting within range of the enemy's guns. It will be evident that since the supply of motive power is not limited, the submarine torpedo may be started during the night, or before the approach of the hostile fleet; and that by keeping the propeller in motion it may be held in a position distant from the shore near the ship channel. Consequently, it may be sent against the first ship that advances, with a certainty of striking even while the entering ship is in motion. Should the first attempt fail, the shore reel will be applied and a retrograde motion imparted to the torpedo sufficient to insure a good position for a second attack. It is scarcely necessary to observe that in a tidal current the submarine torpedo will be successively hauled in by the reel and again sent out in the direction best calculated to insure a favorable position. Let us bear in mind that unlike the Lay torpedo-boat which is always in sight and exposed to the enemy's fire, the submarine torpedo is out of sight, and safe under a column of water at least fifteen feet deep. Other advantages might be pointed out, but the superiority of the submarine tubular cable system is so obvious that further comparison with the Lay electric wire-system is not called for.

7. Commander Kirkland asserts that the tubular cable of my submarine torpedo, in case it floats on the surface of the water, may be easily rendered useless "by running astern of the torpedo with a boat, picking up and cutting the cable." If this assertion be well founded and we must accept its correctness, coming from an experienced naval officer, it proves that the Lay torpedo may be either captured, turned out of its course or sunk without firing a shot.

My correspondents who feel so sanguine of sending the surface torpedo to its destination in spite of Captain Scott's ingeniously contrived torpedo guns, should not lose sight of the startling expedient proposed by the experienced commander of "running a boat astern of the torpedo." Granted that such a boat expedition is practicable against a torpedo running under water at high speed, it will be mere play on the part of the enemy to run his boat abreast of the slow moving surface torpedo propelled by a feeble motor, arrest its progress, or turn its course, thereby rendering the supposed formidable weapon of destruction perfectly harmless.

Very respectfully,  
J. ERICSSON.

NEW YORK, February 5, 1873.

#### THE RIVAL TORPEDOES.

MR. LAY'S REPLY TO CAPTAIN ERICSSON'S CHALLENGE.

Mr. John Ericsson.

SIR: I am in receipt of your communication of January 22. In regard to the conditions named by you, and upon which you express a willingness to accept my challenge of the 6th of January, I have to say:

1. That the first proposed condition is accepted, provided that a course shall be selected athwart and against the current, as stipulated in my challenge.

2. As to the second condition. In your letter to the Hon. Secretary of the Navy, you were pleased to point out what you seemed to regard as serious, if not fatal, defects in my system, and to offer instead a plan of your own, the character of, and proposed mode of operating which, you explained so fully that there can be no misapprehension in regard to its general features. You stated that it was a torpedo nineteen inches in diameter and ten feet long; that it carried its propelling machinery, and was to be driven by two screws, revolving in opposite directions, for reasons which you stated; that the engines were to be of fifteen horse-power, and were to be operated by compressed air, which was to be conveyed from the shore through a tube to the torpedo; and that this torpedo was to be propelled at a depth of fifteen feet below the surface of the water. My challenge was based upon this description over your own signature, and I shall therefore insist upon preserving the dimensions which I have used, and that you shall make good your statement with regard to the dimensions with which you then proposed to operate.

3. The third, fourth, and fifth conditions are accepted.

4. The sixth condition is accepted, with this addition: As speed is useless without offensive power, there shall be placed at the end of the first mile an object presenting a surface twenty feet square, against which each boat shall explode a charge of some explosive material, and then return to the starting point, as stipulated in my challenge.

Permit me to remind you that in gratuitously attacking my invention through the public press, and in offer-



ing through the same medium a device of your own as a substitute—the dimensions, power, and general character of which you specifically stated—you gave me the right which I have exercised of challenging you to a practical test of the relative merits of my intention and of your theory.

I am perfectly well aware that "operating a submarine vessel is a very different problem from that of operating a vessel which is partly above water;" but, let me add, the modified device which you present through the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL of the 25th of January, suggests grave doubts as to whether you fully appreciated the difference at the time you addressed your communication to the Secretary, in which you so fully presented, and so zealously urged, the merits of your theory.

After you shall have consulted with your friends, or the parties interested in your device, if you shall feel disposed to make the proposed test under the accepted and modified conditions, I shall be glad to make the forfeit \$20,000 instead of \$10,000. Yours, etc.,

JOHN L. LAY.

NEWPORT, R. I., February 1, 1873.

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## U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1873.

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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### THE NEW SLOOPS OF WAR.

IT should occur to Congress that the amendment to the bill for the construction of the additional sloops of war for the Navy proposed by Mr. SHERMAN, practically defeats the wise ends of the original bill. The latter had in it the very prudent proviso that the vessels should not be commenced until full and complete plans, models, specifications, and estimates had been made for their construction: In other words, it was provided that the vessels to be built should be accurately described and laid down in advance, with full working plans, so that if we were going to have any more naval abortions imposed upon us, we could keep them on paper, and not rush to their realization in actual marine monstrosities. The wisdom of such a precaution our past experience has amply shown. If it had been adopted fifteen years ago we should have been saved the serious results of the scores of failures which have during that time emanated from the constructional bureaus of the Navy Department.

Mr. SHERMAN's amendment, in one fell swoop, dashes away this great safeguard of the original bill. It reads: "And after such plans are approved by the proper authority they shall not be changed in any respect when the cost will exceed \$100, except on the recommendation of a board of survey, composed of not less than five officers of the Navy, and approved by the Secretary; and if changes are thus made, the actual cost of, and damages caused by such change shall be estimated by such board of survey."

Now, what does this mean? It means that the proviso calling for the preliminary working plans and estimates in the original bill amounts to nothing—that it is completely neutralized, and no one will be able to know what sort of vessel will result. The amendment actually puts it in the power of the five officers composing the board to construct the vessels according to their own ideas, without let or hindrance. A more absurd perversion of the original intent of a bill, or a more unwise authority conferred, could scarcely be conceived. This board of officers are not even to have their notions reduced to the practicality of working plans, but are allowed full scope, even after contracts are entered into, the work begun—in fact in all stages of its progress—to modify, change, and reconstruct the whole ship from truck to keelson. This would indeed be to establish a pretty bad state of affairs, and we should confidently expect the result to be not only the construction of a lot of naval abortions, but great delay, and in fine the real defeat of the intention of the original bill, which wisely guarded against just such evils; and, moreover, to further fortify this point, provided finally, "that no contract or order for construction shall be made until full detailed estimates have been submitted to Congress, and appropriation made therefor." A conference committee has agreed upon a report which so far as we can learn is in accord with the bill as it passed the Senate. It remains to be seen what action the two houses will take upon this report; though they will doubtless accept, we shall have to wait another week to learn in what shape it leaves the bill.

WE learn from private sources that Lieutenant GEO. M. WHEELER's Surveying and Exploring Expedition has returned to winter quarters in Washington, where it is busily engaged in office duty elaborating and working up the large accumulation of material of the past two seasons, and preparing the volumes of the forthcoming reports to Congress. These volumes are to be quarto in size, to match the Preliminary Report already issued, and are to be accompanied by a map of the territory embraced in the surveys of 1869, 1871, and 1872, which will be the first instalment of the systematic issue of maps as projected in the plan submitted by Lieutenant WHEELER to the Engineer Department and approved. Thirteen of the eighty-five rectangular squares laid off in that project will be covered by this map, which will be advanced in the accuracy of its execution by means of the comprehensive series of astronomical observations obtained at stations immediately and remotely connected with the field work. The value of these observations in perfecting topographical labors in a region where so many physical obstacles stand in the way of accurate geodetic surveys can hardly be overestimated.

We hear that in all departments invariable success has attended this last season's Expedition. Besides the valuable series of astronomical observations already alluded to, stretching from lower Utah to Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, and the hourly sets of meteorological observations at various points, there have been large accessions of specimens in the departments of mineralogy, natural history, ethnology and photography. In connection with the latter, a side party to the Colorado secured a fine gallery of photographs and stereoscopic views from the Grand Cañon, and other wonders, from which a characteristic contribution is to be made to the Vienna Exposition. In connection with ethnological research, many Indian mounds were opened and examined in different localities, numerous relics of greater or less value obtained, and a collection of a dozen crania and several measurably perfect skeletons made. The natural history department has also brought back a large collection of specimens of the flora and fauna of the region traversed by the Expedition, which are now in process of preparation for the various scientific institutions to which they are to be presented.

Apart, however, from the strictly scientific and departmental work of the Expedition, a still more valuable field of inquiry was entered, through the fact that a large part of Lieutenant WHEELER's attention was directed to the discovery and practicability of new routes of travel and new modes of transportation for Government property through the vast areas over which posts are scattered. Attention had already been called, in the Lieutenant's Preliminary Report, to the necessity of north and south railways east of the Sierras and west of Denver, to connect the trans-continental roads as they should be completed and to develop the country lying between them. This last year the feasibility of such a north and south road was demonstrated, through western Utah or eastern Nevada, across the Colorado near the mouth of the Grand Cañon, and down through Arizona to Prescott. The immediate neighborhood of the Colorado presents the only real difficulty on the line of the proposed route, and this is but slight as compared with the obstacles overcome in the Sierras by engineer skill.

Constant endeavor was made to associate the scientific inquiries of the Expedition with the practical questions and needs of the territories, and not to conduct a purely scientific or specialist's investigation over the heads of the strangely conglomerate population which covers them, and which looks with jealousy, or at least suspicion, on projects not calculated to advance their personal prosperity. The subjects of artesian wells, irrigation, internal improvements of various kinds, special mining surveys in the different districts for the purpose of local reference, and the possibility of utilizing barren areas, were therefore entertained with attention, and future surveys may, perhaps, be entrusted with more practical treatment of some of these topics.

WE observe that the Senate Naval Committee has introduced into the Navy Appropriation bill an important section, providing for the payment of \$150,000 for the right of private parties for the best



system of torpedoes. We are glad to see that so just an amendment is proposed. Its passage will remove the opportunity which would otherwise be seized upon by parties over-slaughted to make charges of favoritism. The country certainly needs the best torpedo system that is in existence, and it has no interest in the aims or ambitions of any inventor whosoever. Let the different systems be fairly tested, and the one that proves itself the most efficient and best adapted for its purpose be selected.

THE question of retaining the Naval site at New Orleans as an iron-clad station, or for other purposes, is under consideration. Since the war closed several of our monitors have been laid up at that port, and as the site possesses both advantages and disadvantages it is difficult to determine what future action in the matter is advisable. The Navy Department will send, it is understood, an experienced and discreet officer to examine the place, and assist in reaching its determination. The advantages and disadvantages of Pensacola, compared with other eligible sites in the Bay, for a naval station, will also be examined into and reported on. The buildings at this yard were destroyed during the war, and no new or costly ones have been put up since, and if any change of site is advisable, now is the time to make it before further improvements are entered upon.

Commodore AMMEN, then Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, in his report of December 1869, says: "The yard is exposed to injury from vessels outside the harbor, having guns of long range. The location for this reason is objectionable, but in view of its being the only station on the Gulf of Mexico it requires at this time to be made available for repairs. The great importance of having a well-equipped yard on the Gulf of Mexico suggests that before heavy expenditures are made toward reconstructing this yard, it is worth while to institute an examination to ascertain if some more favorable location cannot be found."

Key West has been, since the destruction of the Pensacola yard, a station of considerable importance to the Navy. The work-shops have been of great use in making such repairs as could be done without the use of a dock, and the question arises whether it is advisable to keep them all in their present condition or to augment them. No appropriations have been asked for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1874, for either of the above places, except for ordinary repairs.

MR. STOCKTON, from the Committee on Naval Affairs reported on the 4th inst., without amendment, House bill for the relief of the officers and crew of the *Wyoming*. Subsequently he moved it as an amendment to the bill before the Senate, to release the Japanese Government from paying a portion of the Japanese Indemnity fund, which motion was not disposed of when the morning hour expired. Mr. STOCKTON strongly advocated the claims of the officers and crew of the *Wyoming*, which he considered a primary claim on the fund. The simple proposition was to give \$125,000 to the men who obtained this fund by their gallantry and good conduct, and to the widows of those killed in action. He believed in doing justice to our own people and encouraging the gallantry of our seamen—in giving them what they are entitled to, in lieu of prize money, before going into the question whether the Japanese Government should have this fund handed back to them or not. Some means of paying our own people should be devised before we are so earnest and so magnanimous as to debate whether the money should be returned.

THE Conference Committee of the Senate and House have finally agreed on building eight sloops of war, one-half of which are to be built by contract.

A EUROPEAN correspondent writes: "Our countryman, Mr. L. W. BROADWELL, whose celebrated ring has made breech-loading artillery a success, is at the head of extensive Ordnance Works, situated in the city of Karlsruhe, Baden. At present the firm are completing the great Turkish order for 500 guns on the Broadwell system. These comprise 100 mountain guns, 2.5-inch. calibre; 300 field guns, 3-inch. calibre; 100 field guns, 3 3-8 calibre, all of

course of cast steel. Mr. BROADWELL, not having sufficient manufacturing capacity at Karlsruhe to furnish all the guns within the specified time, sub-contracted with the Bochum Works for 200, and with BERGER & Co., of Witten, for 100."

A JOINT resolution passed the Senate on the 31st ult., extending the time for the reception of models for the colossal statue of FARRAGUT until the 1st of March next. This was in consequence of the non-arrival from Italy of the model prepared by the American artist Mr. RANDOLPH ROGERS, who modeled the beautiful bronze doors in the Capitol and whose monuments to the soldiers are erected in several places. The resolution was so modified that the models which have already arrived may be considered by the committees without prejudice to any that may be received between this time and the 1st of March. Mr. ROGERS's statue has since arrived.

THE Army Register for 1873 has just made its appearance with an addenda following page 214, which makes it complete to about the 15th of January. General SHERMAN has also published in a neat volume a complete file of the orders issued by him in the various commands held by him as a general officer during the war of the rebellion, down to May 30, 1866. It proves a most valuable historical record, and we wish we could have the advantage of a similar publication on the part of all the officers who served in important commands during the war.

MR. BANKS introduced a joint resolution in the House January 20, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, directing the Secretary of the Navy to cause an examination and survey to be made of that section of the American Isthmus which lies between Valencia Point and the Changuenola river, on the Atlantic side, and the Boca Chica, the Rio Pedrigal, and the upper part of Golfo Dolce, on the Pacific side, including the intervening country, a longitudinal examination of the two Cordilleras, and exploration of the courses of the rivers from their outlets within the said coasts' limits to their sources, for the purpose of ascertaining the possibility of their being connected to form an inter-oceanic ship-canal, or other means of cheap transportation for coal and heavy merchandise, between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans; and that the cost of said examination and said survey shall be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

A BILL passed the House on the 31st ult., to pay to the widow of the late Commander A. T. Crosman, one year's extra pay of his grade. Senator Merrill, of Maine, introduced a bill, No. 1,444, on the 24th of January, authorizing the President to appoint George Henry Preble, now a captain on the active list of the Navy, a commodore on the active list of the Navy, next below Commodore Edward Donaldson, being the same relative position on the Navy register occupied by him for thirty-one years until the promotions of 1864. Senator Scott introduced a bill January 27, No. 1,458, authorizing the President to nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint George M. Book, now on the retired list, a lieutenant on the active list.

A BILL was introduced on the 28th of January by Senator Stewart, and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to direct the proper accounting officers of the Treasury to allow and pay to such persons as were officers and composed the crew of the U. S. steamer *Bienville*, August 5, 1864, a sum equal to that to which the officers and crew of said steamer would have been entitled to receive as prize money had the name of said steamer been inserted in the list of the vessels entitled to share in the captures made in the Bay of Mobile on said 5th day of August, 1864, the name of said vessel having been accidentally omitted from said list—said sum to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated and distributed as prize money.

THE Secretary of War has submitted to the Senate, and recommended the enactment into a law of the accompanying proposed bill to authorize the administration of oaths to witnesses before boards of survey in the Army. The attention is directed in the communication to copies enclosed of a communication from the commanding general of the Department of California and of the Military Division of the Pacific, and to the indorsement of the Judge-Advocate-General of the Army thereon, as showing that no authority exists at present in boards of survey to administer oaths:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

That hereafter the junior member or recorder in a board of survey of the Army (or, if the board consist of but a single officer, then that officer), shall be authorized to administer oaths to witnesses before the board; and such oaths shall be in the same form as those now required to be administered to witnesses before courts-martial, and be equally binding in law.

A BILL is now before the Military Committee of the Senate which provides "that no soldier who was, during the late rebellion, captured and imprisoned by the enemies of the United States in southern prisons, and who agreed to join the enemy only for the purpose of escaping from such imprisonment, shall on that account be treated as a deserter. And it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War, upon being satisfied that any such soldier did agree to join the enemy only for the sake of escaping such imprisonment, and that he has at no time actually taken arms against the United States or proposed to do so, to grant him an honorable discharge, to date from the muster-out of his regiment, together with the usual pay and emoluments."

In the Senate of the United States, Jan. 22, 1873, Mr. Logan asked, and, by unanimous consent, obtained leave to bring in a bill providing "that section twelve of the act approved July seventeenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, be, and the same is hereby, so far amended as to make it obligatory upon the President to place upon the retired list of the Army any officer of the Army whose name shall have been borne on the Army Register forty-five years, or who shall be sixty-two years of age." It was referred to the Military Committee. On the same date the following bill, passed by the House May 13, 1872, and referred by the Senate to the Committee on Naval Affairs, was reported by Mr. Cragin from that Committee with an amendment striking out all of the first section after and including the word "provided":

AN ACT to prevent the employment of officers on the retired list.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That no officer on the retired list of the Navy shall be employed on active duty except in time of war: *Provided*, That those officers on the retired list, and those hereafter retired, who were, or who may be, retired after forty years' service, or on attaining the age of sixty-two years, in conformity with section one of the act of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and its amendments, dated June twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, or those who were or may be retired from incapacity resulting from long and faithful service, from wounds or injuries received in the line of duty, from sickness or exposure therein, in conformity with the twenty-third section of the act of August third, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, shall, after the passage of this act, be entitled to seventy-five per centum of the present sea-pay of the grade or rank which they held at the time of their retirement. This act shall not affect the pay of certain rear-admirals on the retired list, as provided for in the act of June fifth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two.

SEC. 2. That all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

THE following is the text of the bill "to regulate the salary and allowances in kind of commissioned officers of the Army when absent with leave," referred to last week:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That whenever leave of absence is granted any officer of the Army, except when granted because of sickness or wounds contracted in the service, he shall, during so much of the time he is absent with leave as shall exceed thirty days in any calendar year, receive only one-half the salary to which he is, or may be, entitled by law when on duty: *Provided*, That, in addition to the thirty days hereinbefore specified, no deduction of salary shall be made for the reasonable time required to travel, going and returning, between his station and his recognized place of residence: *And provided further*, That in reckoning the time beyond which absence with leave shall work a deduction of salary, regard shall be had to previous service, in such manner that for every year during which it appears the officer was in service and not absent with leave for thirty days or more, thirty days additional shall be added to the time for which no deduction of salary shall be made: *And provided further*, That the authorized temporary absence of a mounted officer from his proper station shall not deprive him of the allowance now provided by law for the horses which he keeps in service and is compelled to leave behind him at his station.

CAPTAIN ABBEY, of the revenue steamer *Stevens*, at Newbern, N. C., reports having on the 28th inst., during rough and stormy weather, rendered assistance to the Brant Island light-house, which is built on screw piles in the centre of Pamlico Sound. The principal keeper had been absent about twenty-four days with the only boat belonging to the light-house. The assistant keeper and a small boy were alone there, and in a starving condition. They had been five days without anything to eat. A schooner had given them something, but that had been exhausted.

THE continuation of Rear-Admiral Joseph F. Green, now on the retired list, in the command of the North Atlantic Station, was confirmed by the Senate January 27.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

## TARGET PRACTICE—AN EXPLANATION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In your journal of January 11, 1873, appears an abstract from the reports of target practice in the Department of the Platte, authorized by the department commander, in which Company C, Fourteenth Infantry, is reported as one of the "worst targets."

On the date mentioned, November 22, 1872, I was not present at target practice, but am informed by the officer who commanded that, on account of the high wind, it was impossible for the men to stand steady while aiming; consequently they could not take an accurate aim at the target. The target blew down several times during the firing, and finally the company was required to return to its quarters without completing its regular practice.

Fort D. A. Russell is more than 6,000 feet above the level of the sea, and between October and May the wind blows almost continuously. When it does blow it is generally too cold for practice. To-day the men were obliged to stand in the snow while firing, and frequently during the practice the snow blew to such an extent that at times the target was scarcely visible. Still, such a day is considered a pleasant one here. There is no post in the department where the winds prevail to such a degree as at Fort Russell, and where the cold is so severe. At most of the posts in the department they have but slight winds, if any.

Under these circumstances an allowance should certainly be made for the companies stationed at this post, particularly when these reports are to be sent to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL for publication, as many of the officers and citizens who read them have but a slight knowledge of the difficulties we have to contend with in our target practice.

ONE OF THE "WORST TARGETS."

## A RIFLED PRACTICE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: For once I have my name spelt right in the despatches, and am at one end or the other of the tabled report of target practice from the Department of the Platte.

Apparently I have been on my comparative merits for a month, with some forty other centurions, and my X Company of 60 regiment has put me best, or worst, of the lot. How do the Thirty-ninth feel about it? I certainly have got a grievance. If I am best, I have a reputation to uphold, which, if I should undertake it, I fear would make target practice a burden to the disturbance of all my aims. I can't expect to draw the lucky number twice running. Next month that detachment of all the bad shots may come back, that I would as soon undertake to teach to fiddle as to hit the mark. Or the fair day and hour of the month with the sun in my back, may fall just after pay-day (shaky day). Or the recruits may join to make an awkward reduction in my hits. Perhaps the umpire might not work his formulas the same way again.

My seventy-five per centum with 6-inch average at 100 yards, would not win from Captain B.'s fifty-five per centum with 9-inch average at 350 yards.

No, my bubble reputation is as good as burst by all the rules of all the doctrines of chances. Now, if I am worst in the table, do not I feel as though my name and crime had been published at the place of my abode. I like a healthy stimulus to exertion. But the letter I will get from my uncle in the States will put stimulus into me, I am afraid. How shall I explain to the venerable gentleman the difficulty of standing ankle-deep in snow, and teaching the young idea of a recruit how to shoot? Or keeping name in his will?

GUN-SHOT WOUND.

OKLAHAMA BARRACKS, January 20, 1873.

## CAVALRY TACTICS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: An article in your journal, issued not long since, intimates that changes are about to be made in cavalry tactics, and that a general system is to be adopted, which can be used to a certain extent by all arms of the service. This of course means a hash composed of Upton's and Cooke's tactics. The former having undergone a fair trial by competent judges, and found effective for infantry, is, without doubt, the best for that arm of the service. Here it has accomplished its end and object, and no good reason exists for its being urged upon the cavalry through the prejudice of officers lately transferred to the corps from the infantry. The latter is known as the single rank formation, but I question whether there exists another cavalry officer of any experience who agrees with General Cooke, or who desires a change to that system. We have many officers who have been assigned to the cavalry, with high rank as a well merited reward for gallant services in the field. Some of them know very little about cavalry service, yet are urging changes without any definite knowledge as to what is necessary, basing their opinions upon the experience gained in the command of a few companies for a short time. Some are writing cavalry tactics who never commanded a company or participated in any movement in active service with cavalry. Some are urging the effectiveness of a single rank who certainly never felt the force of a double one.

It is time, therefore, for those who are interested in the matter, to use all the influence they possess to prevent our being "saddled" with a tactics fit only for bushwhackers. I would suggest that the "tactics" of '41

has well served the purposes of some of the best cavalry officers of modern times, in other armies as well as our own, and with the alterations necessary for the change of arms and such others as the experience of the war would suggest, they are the best that can be devised as regards a manual of arms. It is well known that we have had breech-loading arms for the last ten years, yet never a line from any competent authority as to how they shall be used. The result of which is, not only each regiment but even the company commanders for the want of a better, are obliged to use a tactics of their own and no two are alike.

We have a number of accomplished officers of experience in our arm of the service. Why then should we be falling back, instead of advancing with the rest of the Army; and between this, that, and the other theory, have none at all? The Secretary of War and General-in-Chief appear ready and willing to further the interests of the Army or any portion of it, and an effort made now by cavalry officers of standing would be of the greatest benefit to the corps, and would fulfill the desires of all who have a proper interest in their profession.

CAVALRY.

## WANTED A PAYMASTER.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: May I find room in your paper for a few questions: I am a poor man with a large family, and I should like to know why paymaster's visits are so much like angels? I know many of your readers will jump right at the backneyed answer. Because they are few and far between? They sometimes—at the end of the earth on which we live—extend to very long intervals, and we look for them with a calm and anxious eye. And should they by accident drop upon us unawares, we are as much surprised as we would be were the airy visitants of the blue ether suddenly to flap their heavenly wings and alight among us, their pinions tipped with the hue of the bright sunbeams. The other visitant is tipped with green-backs more earthly but not the less welcome.

I ask again, "Wherefore? How is this? What shall we do?" Potent questions?

If you can acquaint us with any charm that thereby we may be enabled to summon this welcome visitant you will confer a favor on many of your readers and also on

OLD S.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH, Jan. 26, 1873.

## THE ADVANCEMENT OF CERTAIN OFFICERS IN THE NAVY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Exactly the purpose your correspondent "Of the Class of '63" sought to serve by his communication in your issue of January 25, on "The Advancement of Certain Officers in the Navy," it is difficult to determine, since it is not the vote of your readers that is to decide the question at issue. If it were so, we who are opposed to the views of your correspondent would joyfully submit for their scrutiny "every law, argument, and record," confident of a speedy and favorable verdict.

We shun no publicity, but have thought it more to the purpose to submit our arguments for redress to the constituted authorities, rather than to trespass upon the columns of public journals in a matter which our faith in the justice of our cause prompts us to believe only needs to be fairly presented to secure for us complete, though tardy reparation.

Inasmuch, however, as your correspondent has appealed to the public in what he evidently considers an unanswerable legal argument in support of the present relative standing of his class—that of '63—and those officers transferred from the volunteer service as ensigns, at present 28, from Lieutenant Randall to Lieutenant Morgan inclusive—as legally correct, it may serve to enlighten such of your readers as may have adopted his view of the law of July 16, 1862, to submit the following, particularly as the extract from the law which he quotes, and upon which he bases his claim, is in fact the only shadow of a legal support any of our opponents have presented in their opposition to our claim for the full benefit of the several enactments in our behalf hitherto denied us. How unsubstantial is that shadow I propose to show.

The extract is as follows:

SEC. 11. That the students at the Naval Academy shall be styled midshipmen, and, until their final graduating examination, when, if successful, they shall be commissioned ensigns, ranking according to merit.

It does indeed seem superfluous to inquire into the meaning of language so clear. "That students at the Naval Academy shall be styled midshipmen—that is, while pursuing their academical studies, 'and' for a certain time afterwards—that is, until their final graduating examination." Unless a certain lapse of time was contemplated between the completion of the strictly academic course and the "final graduating examination," the word "and" in the text has clearly no meaning, and legal enactments are not apt to burden themselves with words of no significance, particularly where they receive the care bestowed upon this act during its passage. Let us examine its history: The act in question originated in the House, and passed that body June 16, 1862. As it passed the House, the clause in question read as follows: "That the students at the Naval Academy shall be styled midshipmen, until their graduating examination, when, if successful, they shall receive commissions as ensigns, to take position according to merit."

Here, then, is the clause in dispute in the first stage of its passage, and indicates undoubtedly an intention to commission the students at the Academy as ensigns as soon as they should have passed successfully the last examination of their strictly academic course, or the "graduating" examination. Such a purpose, however, was wholly at variance with existing regulations, and involved an advancement from a state of pupilage to that of the responsibilities of commissioned officers, unprecedented in the naval history of this or any other na-

tion, and it is evident the Senate Naval Committee took note of this fact, for in reporting this bill to the Senate, with numerous amendments, they recommended, as a substitute for the section of which the above is an extract, a new section, the first clause of which reads: "That the students at the Naval Academy shall be styled midshipmen and acting midshipmen, until their final graduating examination, when, if successful, they shall be commissioned ensigns, ranking according to merit," the only material change from the clause as it passed the House being the insertion of the words italicized. Upon the consideration of this bill by sections in the Senate, July 2d, Mr. Grimes explained, upon the inquiry of a Senator with regard to the insertion of the words "and acting midshipmen," that their purpose was to style the students acting midshipmen until they went afloat; after that, midshipmen. No reason was given by the Committee for the insertion of the word *final*, because no inquiry was made. It must, however, have been put there with a purpose. The phrase it seeks to qualify reads, "until their graduating examination; now, if there were but one examination, which by any possibility of construction could be taken as the one meant, what necessity for any qualification of the phrase at all? Why not have left it as it was?"

No one will pretend that there was fear of confounding the "graduating examination" referred to with that of any of the intermediate examinations of the academic course. Your correspondent himself has clearly defined for us, with the aid of Webster, the meaning of the verb "to graduate"—i. e., "to honor with a diploma or degree at a college or university," and states that his class did receive "certificates of graduation." Clearly the committee had in their mind some other examination, and since it could not have been one prior to the "graduating examination" at the Academy, nor that examination itself, since that was clearly enough indicated by the phrase as it stood, it is plain they must have referred to some subsequent examination—that is, some examination to take place after the students had undergone their graduating examination at the Academy, and which the Committee chose to designate as the "final graduating examination," to distinguish it from the graduating examination at the Academy, pointing unmistakably to that examination prescribed and enforced by the Department since the organization of the Academy, "to which the members of the graduating class were subjected, after they had performed a term of duty on shipboard, with a view to their becoming practically proficient in the arts of seamanship, naval tactics, gunnery, and navigation," after which a midshipman was said to have passed—hence the term, passed midshipmen; and "the numbers assigned to them by the examining board, as the result of the examination on the subjects indicated, when added to the numbers which had previously been assigned to them on the 'graduating merit roll' of the Academy, determined their respective standing as passed midshipmen" or ensigns, "the highest number taking precedence."

This last examination was the "final graduating examination" under the system devised by the department, and was undeniably that to which the phrase refers. The Senate amended the committee's substitute for the section, in the clause referred to, by striking out the word *ensigns* wherever it occurred, and inserting passed midshipmen, and with no other change in this clause, the bill went to the House for concurrence in the Senate's amendments—some 35 or 40 in all. The House refused to concur, and the bill went to a conference committee, where the only modification of the clause in question was the striking out of the words "acting midshipmen," and the re-substitution of the term "ensigns" in place of passed midshipmen, so that the bill became a law with the clause as quoted. It is significant that in striking out the words "acting midshipmen," the word "and" should have been left, manifestly strengthening the inference that the unmistakable intention of those having the bill in charge—i. e., the Conference Committee—was to add, if possible, to the already clear intent of the term "final graduating examination."

The unfortunate illusion entertained by your correspondent, and doubtless by many others of his class, of the intent of the law, seems to have originated, or to have received official sanction at least, in the "order" of the superintendent of the Academy, which he quotes as a proof of the correctness of his views, and in support of his assertion that he should have been commissioned an ensign on the day following his graduating examination at the Academy. Undoubtedly, your correspondent's class, as well as the class of '64, believed the Commodore's interpretation of the law to be correct, and this belief was encouraged, I am told, by his successor, though your correspondent is in error in supposing that the department sanctioned such a view of the law; nor does the commissioning of a portion of the Class of '63 as ensigns warrant him in citing it as a proof of such a construction of the law by the department. The facts are, that of those who entered the Academy in 1860, together with a few put back from '59, that portion that in '63 constituted the first class—this date having been divided into two classes—were given "certificates of graduation," and commissioned ensigns on the 28th, '63, and on the 1st October of the same year the remaining portion of the date were appointed acting ensigns, all within three years of their matriculation—not because it was the law—on the contrary, in opposition to the law prescribing four years as the term of academic study—but because the department was in need of its available servants afloat, and possibly in the hope that the experience to be acquired in active service would more than compensate for the loss of a year of theoretical training.

The experiment was not, however, repeated, though a portion of the class that entered in '61—the date of entry of your correspondent—were graduated in '64, and sent afloat as midshipmen, thus giving them the advantage of a year on board ship that should legally have been spent at the Academy. The remainder of the date, among which was your correspondent, received their



"certificates of graduation" in '65, and were commissioned ensigns December 1, '66, the class of '64 having been commissioned masters on the same day—no record appearing on the Register of these latter ever having been commissioned ensigns at all. Your correspondent should know full well that no pains were spared by the friends of the class of '64 and '65 to induce the Department to accept their interpretation of the law of '62. So persistent, indeed, were they that the Department was forced to fortify itself with an opinion from the Attorney-General upon the question involved, which I beg you will print entire, that your readers may see how correct is your correspondent in his statement that "the Attorney-General in his decision" has omitted the word "graduating" when speaking of the final examination, with respect to which this question has arisen, as well as to present the support upon which the Department rested in its view of the law.\*

"Such a decision" may "seem incredible" to your correspondent when he considers "the clear, unequivocal language of the law itself," and "the interpretation thereof by Commodore Blake;" but I apprehend it will not so strike a majority of your readers, nor do I fear that the imposing heading of the "Merit Roll of the Graduating Class" of 1865 will add a single convert to the views of our opponents.

It is not my purpose to discuss the general merits of our claim. It is founded on statutory laws so clear that even our opponents cannot misinterpret them; and as the clause just discussed is the only one in any statute that can by any possible construction afford the slightest opposition to our claim, I have thought it worth while to offer upon said clause the views of

AN EX-VOLUNTEER.

\* We regret that we are unable to make room for this opinion. We can only say that our correspondent "Of the Class of '65" was in error in regard to the use of this term in the opinion in question.—ED. JOURNAL.

### THE SUPPRESSION OF FIRES.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The recent terrible disaster in the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York city, following, as it does, upon the very heels of the fearful conflagrations in Boston and Chicago, may well lead us to question our ability to combat fires on a large scale with any certainty of success, even when they occur under circumstances the most favorable for their suppression.

When we come to review our modern appliances for controlling combustion I think we will be forced to confess them rather meagre, in spite of our admirably organized municipal fire departments, with their complete outfit of steam-pumps, street hydrants, and electric alarms. We must also admit that water, used as a fire extinguisher, is often inadequate to the emergency, in that it fails many times in reaching the objective point; in that it is liable to freeze, and therefore become useless, also in that it is explosive when subjected to high temperature and augments the volume and force of the flames, instead of subduing them.

Furthermore, it causes almost as much damage to property as fire, and in its use a victory is almost as disastrous as defeat.

The use of gunpowder is still in its infancy, and it is, of course, impossible to speak of its value. As at present applied, it seems only to have furnished kindling wood for the flames, and in overthrowing granite walls to have destroyed the only barriers that opposed the rush of the fire.

There is one agent, however, to which I would through your columns call the attention of underwriters, but more particularly would I urge it upon the attention of our Army and Navy Departments, as being the best means for protecting public and private property, either on land or at sea.

Everyone is aware that carbonic acid is a heavy, pungent gas that is absorbable by water to the extent of one volume, and is a non-supporter of combustion when impregnating the atmosphere to one-third of its capacity.

That this substance can be easily and cheaply produced in very large quantities, and that its distribution and application as a fire extinguisher is entirely practicable on a large scale, is the fact which I would elucidate.

In regard to its production I will say nothing—it is such an everyday affair in the manufacture of soda and seltzer waters that it is needless to make any suggestion.

Its storing and distribution is another matter; and for that purpose I would recommend the erection in all cities of large reservoirs, similar in most respects to those now used for storing illuminating gas. These I would have charged to their full capacity with carbonic acid gas. The number of these reservoirs must of necessity be great, since we should have in view all possible contingencies.

From these reservoirs this gas should be conducted by means of large mains, which could be laid by the side of coal gas and water mains, through every street and into every house.

Service pipes similar to those in use now for illuminating gas should be distributed to every room, or at least to every floor, and more particularly into attics and cellars.

The immediate application of this agent can be regulated by means of stop-cocks, or resinous plugs, which would not automatically at a known degree of temperature should the stop-cock be unapproachable by reason of the flames. Now, in event of a fire in a building so arranged, the process of its suppression is obvious.

Turn on the gas in the room, or on the floor where it may be, at once. The doors, windows, and all other openings should be closed as far as possible, and wet carpets or blankets be nailed over them if necessary.

The entire exclusion of air from fire is of the first importance, since air is fire food; and it is just here in using water that we make a failure, as it is impossible to introduce one element without admitting the other.

If there be sufficient force at its head, the room and house will be instantly filled with this mephitic air, in which no fire can live, and, by the wonderful law of transmutation of gases, it will instantly permeate every place where fire can creep, and throttle the destroyer with a power that is irresistible. Our fire being out, as it most certainly will be, we can cut off the gas in the street, open the windows and doors for ventilation, and return to the house with the comfortable assurance that what the fire spared is not destroyed by water.

In further extension of this project, I would advise a flexible hose to be connected with the street main, by means of which the carbonic acid could without difficulty be carried to buildings where service pipes are not laid.

Thrust through a window or under a roof, our fireman of the future can be certain that he will reach the fire, and without effort from himself other than to keep the air out, as mentioned in the foregoing paragraph.

There is a singular coincidence in the origin of the recent fires in Boston and New York, the one so disastrous to property, and the other so fatal to human life.

In both cases the conflagration started in an elevator well, and each became a roaring chimney, in which the blazing wood-work was fed by air which rushed in at the open basement, and by the incandescent vapor of water, which poured, it is said, from a melted pipe, but more probably from an ineffectual fire hose.

In each was a vast, whirling column of flame and heated air that reached from cellar to garret, and which, by its immense velocity, and buoyancy in one instance, undoubtedly tore off the roof almost before it was ignited.

Of the constructive vices of these elevators it is not my intention to speak. Of course they should be fire-proof, and all entrances closed by iron doors, and closed air tight; but I must insist that, had all openings been stopped, and a full stream of carbonic acid gas been forced from a two-inch pipe placed in the upper part of their elevator wells, the fire would have been certainly and instantly extinguished.

To all U. S. custom-houses, bonded warehouses, and stores of delicate fabrics this gas would be an inestimable safeguard, not only against fire, but against water.

To all manufactories, Government arsenals, quartermaster's depots, navy-yards, and powder magazines it should be applied; but far more earnestly would I recommend its use in subduing conflagrations at sea, and to the thoughtful consideration of our Navy Department and merchant marine I would make special appeal.

Fires on shipboard are generally concealed, often about the boiler or fire-room of a steamer, or in its coal bunkers, or among its closely packed freight, and the history of all maritime disasters of this nature will bear me out in the statement that hidden fires are the most common and the least under control.

To mention even a few of the hundreds of melancholy instances where utter defeat and a horrible death have time and again overwhelmed brave and skilful officers and disciplined crews, who had the whole ocean of water at their command and the perfection of apparatus with which to combat fires at sea, would be beyond the limits of any one article, and so I will revert without preamble to the fuller development of the subject.

For use on shipboard a permanent reservoir is not an essential. The fire extinguisher can be manufactured at once on the spot, by mixing its several ingredients in one or many generators, and the gas conducted through a hose under the deck, where it would penetrate places ordinarily inaccessible, even through the most closely packed stowage, no piece of which need be moved, and fill the hold, quenching by its mephitic power every spark of fire.

The ordinary patent "fire extinguisher" of either Babcock or Garner fulfils many of these requisites, and in so far as it is applicable it is quite in advance of the usual water method; but with them the carbonic acid gas is held mainly in solution with water, and is not generated in sufficient quantities to fill a vessel.

It has often occurred to me that, in case of emergency, a very simple process for the generation and application of this gas might be employed. For instance, pour into a half barrel of marble dust an equal quantity of mixed sulphuric acid and water. Before effervescence commences the barrel must be lowered away into the hold where the fire is known to be, then batten the hatches, closing every crevice through which air might enter or the gas might escape, and stir the mixture with an iron rod run through a hole in the deck.

Should not one barrel prove sufficient, introduce another, and a third, until thousands of cubic feet of carbonic acid are liberated and the whole vessel is filled with it.

I firmly believe that the sad story of the *Bienville* and the *Missouri* need never have been written, and that ten thousand cubic feet of mephitic air forced under their burning decks would have spared humanity the shudder that the recital of these horrible disasters caused.

I do not consider this agent as one that will obviate the necessity of other means for controlling fires.

It is imperative that an edifice should be, both in its materials and in its construction, incombustible, so far as possible.

It is also necessary that the water supply should be augmented, and the method of its application improved; but this gas has an applicability and an energy beyond that of water for the suppression of fires within walls, and a deadening power that will be enormously felt in controlling large conflagrations out of walls.

To all who are interested in protecting life and property, both on land and at sea, from the dreadful ravages of fire I would earnestly commend the investigation of this most important subject, and should there ever come the time when this or a similar proposition will be carried into effect, then it will be that we may hope to attain an entire immunity from such terrible disasters as have

devastated every city in the world and have swept every sea on the globe.

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY., Dec. 28, 1872.

B. F. P.

### ARMY PAYMENTS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Pay day in the Army is an intolerable nuisance. The visit of a paymaster to a military post is the prelude to a ten days' carnival of drunkenness, disorderly conduct, absenteeism and desertion. So certain are these consequences that they are expected by Army officers, and even the strictest commanders have been known to relax the curb of discipline a little in dealing with delinquencies arising out of the pay day spree. They do this from a conviction (unconsciously entertained perhaps), that the evil is beyond the reach of discipline.

It will not be disputed by officers who have sat on courts-martial and listened to the usual defence put in by soldiers charged with breaches of discipline, that drunkenness is the curse of the Army. They will admit also, perhaps, that soldiers as a class, like to stimulate as naturally as ducks do to water. The recruit, who had earned a reputation for steady habits in civil life, no sooner dons the uniform than he experiences a sensation akin to recklessness, which in too many instances sweeps him into the maelstrom of dissipation. What is this potent military demoralizer? Some say idleness, but this is disproved by the fact that the evil exists at every post and is uninfluenced by the nature or extent of the duties required. Is it not rather the mental intoxication arising out of a feeling of freedom from every care and anxiety? Food, clothing, and lodging are secured for a term of years, and the recruit feels at liberty to devote his play to pleasures. This he has a right to do if he chooses, and no evil would result therefrom under a properly regulated system of payments. Under our present system the pay and consequent dissipation come in two large lumps. The soldier's life becomes a very short feast and a very long famine. A careful observation will disclose the fact that this season of festivity or dissipation bears a constant ratio to the amount received from the paymaster, and the depths of indulgence are proportional to the length of the preceding famine. If these conclusions be true the remedy is obvious. We must abolish pay-day. We must change our pay system. We must pay the soldiers, either more frequently or not until the end of his term. In no case should all the soldiers of a command be paid on the same day.

Daily and weekly payments, which work well in the English and Prussian armies, could scarcely be applied to ours on account of the nature of the duties on which the bulk of the army is employed. To pay at the end of service, however, could be easily and immediately applied, without any material change in the organization of the Pay Department. The system would impose some additional labor on the staff, and compel the Subsistence Department to carry out the act of Congress in relation to stores now pretty much a dead letter; but these inconveniences are insignificant in view of the improvement which might reasonably be expected to result in the comfort and especially the morals of the Army. The soldier would be supplied in kind, at cost price, with all necessary articles by the Subsistence Department; would have his account balanced monthly and the amount in his favor carried forward to his credit, the final balance to be paid over in cash at the expiration of his term of service.

The question is complicated, but may be simplified by discussion. How can pay-day be abolished? Will anybody rise and explain?

FORT H—, January 21, 1873.

PROFESSOR HAYDEN, in his letter to the Secretary of the Interior, in which an appropriation of \$100,000 for next summer's work of survey is suggested, says: "For the last two years the survey has operated about the sources of the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers, but the expenses of transportation, subsistence, and labor are so great that it seems desirable to delay the further prosecution of the work in the Northwest until railroad communication shall be established. The Indians, also, are in a state of hostility over the greater portion of the country which remains to be explored. It seems desirable, therefore, to transfer the field of labor for the coming season to the eastern portion of the Rocky Mountain range, in Colorado and New Mexico. I propose to commence with the southern limit of the belt of the survey of the fortieth parallel, so successfully completed under the direction of Mr. Clarence King. The north limit of the area marked out is latitude forty degrees thirty minutes; the western limit, the east bank on the Green and Colorado river; the eastern limit, the one hundred and third meridian west of Greenwich, extending to the belt southward to the south line of the United States." In this letter the important announcement is also made that Mr. J. T. Gardiner, so long favorably known as the chief topographer of the geological survey of the fortieth parallel, under the direction of Mr. Clarence King, has become associated with Professor Hayden as chief of the topographical staff. Mr. Gardiner brings with him to this work the ripe experience of ten years of topographical work, extending over an area from the Pacific coast to the east base of the Rocky Mountains.

### LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the date given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington:

JANUARY 31.

Brain, Colonel.	Mitchell, Joseph, Captain.
Brockwood, G. D., Major.	McKuy, J. H., Captain.
Collins, Wm., Captain.	Pratt, T. K., General.
Low, Chas., Captain.	Sheppard, A., General.

FEBRUARY 4.

Cushing, W. H., Captain.	Meigs, Captain.
	Wills, Colonel.



## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**SEVENTH INFANTRY.**—As we announced some time since, the members of this command have determined to make another struggle at Albany to capture Reservoir square or some up-town space in New York city for an armory site; and last week a memorial was presented to the Legislature asking for a site for an armory above Thirtieth street. This document, which by the way gives an interesting sketch of the services of the regiment from the year 1825 to the present time, states that a very large majority of the members reside above Thirtieth street, and as a consequence the present armory, being so far down town, causes considerable delay in assembling the regiment when it is called upon to aid the civil authorities in preserving the peace and good order of the city, and for the protection of public and private property. A new site the regiment considers absolutely necessary, and Reservoir square is asked for as the most suitable place. The memorial states that the past services of the regiment entitle it to the favorable consideration of the Legislature. In relation to Reservoir square the memorialists say they desire to obtain it for the following reasons: It is centrally located and will be accessible to a majority of the members of the regiment. It is not large enough to be of any service as a public park on account of its proximity to the Central Park. The memorial concludes as follows: The value of adjacent property would not be injured by the erection in the centre of Reservoir square of such an ornamental building as is proposed. And this square, having been purchased many years ago by the city for Croton Aqueduct purposes, owners of adjacent property cannot justly claim that the city should maintain a park in this locality for their private and personal benefit. The fact that this plot of ground was leased by the city for occupation by the Crystal Palace, and was so occupied, is conclusive as to the views of the city authorities past and present. The memorialists promise if the site is granted them to erect a handsome building, ornamental as well as useful. A numerous signed petition has been also forwarded, and the members are thoroughly aroused on the subject. It will be remembered that the first effort for this armory site was made conjointly by the Seventh and Seventy-first regiments, but the property owners, led, it is said, by Mr. David Banks, defeated the project for the time; but this year the effort will be strong for either this square or some site up-town, even if the Central Park has to give the regiment space for armory purposes. Speaking of Central Park reminds us of a monument, the erection of which the regiment commenced agitating many years since and largely subscribed to realize, and which, after much talk during several seasons, finally settled upon on a greatly reduced plan from that originally proposed, and at a much less cost. On Monday, at the meeting of the Commissioners of Public Parks the differences between the board and the Seventh regiment regarding the location in Central Park of a site for a memorial statue were finally settled, and on the site being granted the special committee of the regiment at once accepted the gift. The site is located due west of the "Green" and the "Drive," and opposite Eighth avenue and Sixty-ninth street. Last fall a site was voted more in the interior of Central Park, but not accepted by the Seventh regiment, so the question remained in abeyance until it was satisfactorily settled last Monday. The regiment has therefore secured a site for the monument to its dead. Now let it secure a site for the home of its living, both of which will be ornaments to the city.

The armory site bill is receiving very favorable attention at Albany. The House Committee on Cities had the bill under consideration on Tuesday, and on a canvass being made it was found the committee was decidedly in favor of purchasing the property, but was undecided as to whether authority should be given the Supervisors of the county of New York to appropriate \$100,000 for the erection of an armory building. The bill was referred to a sub-committee of the Committee on Cities for the purpose of having some slight alterations made, after which it will be reported to the House and recommended for passage. Colonel Emmons Clark, Major Smith, and Quartermaster Weed have appeared before the committee, submitted their arguments in favor of the project, and a bill which they had prepared to accomplish it. Very naturally, there is some opposition to the scheme among owners of property and residents in the vicinity of the square, and notice has been received by telegram from some of them that it will be opposed. Still, as the French say, "We shall see what we shall see."

**THIRD BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION.**—A General Court-martial for the trial of delinquent commissioned officers of this brigade has been appointed to convene at the armory of the Eighth regiment February 24 at 8 o'clock P. M. Detail for the court: Colonel Charles R. Braine, Ninth regiment; Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen O. Ryder, Seventh regiment; Major Henry J. Bohrer, Fifty-fifth regiment; Major James T. Kilbreth, judge-advocate of the court.

**FIRST INFANTRY.**—This regiment, Colonel Webster, is ordered to assemble at the State Arsenal in fatigue uniform (straight trousers), without leggings, for battalion drill, on the following evenings: February 17, March 18, and April 18. Roll call of companies at 7:45 P. M. Officers and the non-commissioned staff are ordered to meet at the armory at 8 P. M., for theoretical instruction, as follows: February 11,

March 11, and April 8. The companies are ordered to assemble at the armory in the new full-dress uniform for inspection by the colonel commanding, in the following order: Companies D and F, April 21; Companies C and G, 23d; Companies B and H, 23d; Companies A and E, 24th. Roll call at 8 o'clock P. M.

**THIRD INFANTRY.**—We have reliable information that the rumors as to the division of this regiment into a pair of battalions, recently adverted to, are unfounded. The number of men in the companies at present existing is quite insufficient to justify such a course, which, moreover, would tend to increase the State forces beyond the maximum allowed by the Military Code. Besides this, such a change is regarded by our present military authorities as decidedly prejudicial to the interests of the National Guard, in view of the past history of the Third regiment. Consolidation into a single battalion will undoubtedly take place in a very few weeks, accompanied probably by the abolition of the cumbersome fiction of brigade headquarters as at present existing, and the disbandment of those companies which have displayed an unwillingness to conform to discipline, as well as the shelving of incompetent or insubordinate officers by proper and expeditious means. We congratulate our readers on the fact that the expectations and hopes of the JOURNAL as to reformation in the militia, consequent on the accession of an educated soldier to the gubernatorial chair, are in a fair way of realization. The present Governor's staff seem to be hard workers, with an eye to real discipline, and a determination to enforce it at any hazard. In the case of the Third we hope soon to be able to announce that its troubles are ended, and justice administered impartially to all.

Westchester county undoubtedly will not be left defenceless, considering its near neighborhood to New York, and the presence of Sing Sing within its borders, but it is certain that its present military force is perfectly unreliable. Whether the difficulties in the Third will be best healed by turning out a colonel to please two captains, or two captains for insubordination, is a question we are quite willing to leave to the consideration of the parties in power, who certainly so far have given token of excellent military sense in the matter. In any event, the JOURNAL will always be found on the side of true discipline, an excellence lately at a discount in the Seventh brigade.

**ARMORIES AND THEIR RENTALS.**—As will be observed from General Shaler's recent communication to the New York Board of Supervisors, the amount paid by the county for quarters for the different organizations of the First division is not inconsiderable. As suggested by this officer, and as frequently urged by the JOURNAL, the present system of providing military quarters for the troops of the National Guard should be abandoned, and the State or county build its own armories, as a matter of economy if for nothing else. It will not do to be slow in this matter, for it will be observed that several regiments of the First and Second divisions are already moving in the Legislature armory bills, and last year a regiment of Kings county (Brooklyn) secured one hundred and sixty thousand dollars by special legislation for an armory for its exclusive use, and at the present time another regiment hailing from the same locality is specially legislating a bill of one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars for a similar purpose. The Seventh, who only "want a site," is also rapping at the legislative door, but in selecting the reservoir asked for wherein to place this regiment, why not select space enough to accommodate more than one regiment. We feel assured that the Seventh has moved in this matter more in consequence of the inadequate space offered for drilling purposes than as regards the location of the present armory, and would willingly share its quarters if necessary with other regiments of its class. The present quarters of the Seventh cost the city and county nominally nothing for rental, and are as unfit for military purposes for this regiment as they would be for any similar command of the division. Moreover a drill-room on the top floor, particularly in an iron building like Tompkins Market, is regarded as unsafe. The steady cadence step of even one company very visibly affects the whole building, as any one will ascertain by visiting the armory any evening during the drill season. During a drill, the necessary "double time" when coming into line, so perceptibly affects the whole building that on one occasion we saw even an assemblage of "brave military men," who had gathered on the floor below, turn pale and look longingly at the exit. National Guardsmen should run no risk of this nature in their military exercises, nor should the armory committee allow them. Let us have proper and safe military quarters for the National Guard troops, and let the renting of "sky parlors" for drill-rooms cease, and let the State, city, or county become the owners of these buildings. The "armory business" is evidently a very large thing to somebody, and as well known, costs the county many thousands of dollars a year to accommodate thus poorly the militia of New York city.

To show how this money is expended, it is only necessary for us to give a list of the present locations of these armories, and the annual rentals paid by the city under the ten-year leases. First Infantry armory at No. 118 West Thirty-second street, \$16,500; the armory at south-western corner of Broadway, formerly occupied by the First, but still under lease but unoccupied, \$14,000; Fifth Infantry armory in Hester street, \$10,000; Sixth Infantry, Tammany Hall,

Fourteenth street (since vacated and lease cancelled), \$24,000; Seventh Infantry armory over Tompkins market, Sixth street and Third avenue, owned by the city; Eighth Infantry old armory over Centre market, \$3,500, some years since vacated for a "sky floor" in Ninth avenue, and this afterwards vacated for the sumptuous quarters in Twenty-third street, for which latter is paid \$36,000 a year on a ten years' lease; Ninth Infantry armory at No. 213 West Twenty-sixth street, \$24,000—building never completed nor furnished; Eleventh Infantry armory at Chrystie and Delancy streets, \$4,000—this is about twice its value; Twelfth Infantry armory, north-east corner of Broadway and Thirty-fourth street, \$15,000, lease since cancelled; Twenty-second Infantry armory, Fourteenth street between Sixth and Seventh avenues, \$4,600; Fifty-fifth Infantry armory, Hall place and Seventh street, \$5,000; Seventy-first Infantry armory, Broadway and Thirty-fifth street, \$23,000; Seventy-ninth Infantry armory, overstable, Ninth avenue and Twenty-third street, \$10,000; Eighty-fourth Infantry, armory south-east corner of Broadway and Fourth street, \$13,400; Ninety-sixth Infantry armory, 291 Bowery \$5,000; First Troop armory, No. 55 West Thirty-third street, \$15,000; First Battalion armory, 37 Bowery, \$9,000. First division, Karl Klein Troop, in Twenty-fourth st., \$17,000. The new leases and releases made during 1872 are as follows: Twelfth regiment, First battalion Cavalry, and First Troop (Washington Grays) armory, Broadway and Forty-fourth and Forty-fifth streets, \$24,000 per year; Sixth or Ninety-sixth regiment, Nilsson Hall, near Irving place, \$14,000 per year; release of the Ninth avenue and Twenty-seventh street armory, \$12,000 per year; armory over Centre street market, \$3,500 per year. These are the rentals, etc., as far as we have been able to ascertain, and we present them for the contemplation of taxpayers.

**TWENTY-EIGHTH INFANTRY.**—The several companies of this command are ordered to assemble in fatigue uniform (white gloves) at Kings county armory for drill and instruction as follows: Companies A and H, February 3, 13, and March 3; Companies B and D, February 6, 20, and 27, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick W. Obernier; Companies G and I, February 10, 17, and 24, under the command of Major Anthony Willis; right wing, Companies A, H, B, C, on March 13 and 27; left wing, Companies D, I, G, on March 10 and 24. Roll call of companies at 8 o'clock P. M.

**NINTH INFANTRY.**—Since the accession of Colonel Braine to the command of the regiment matters have been remarkably quiet, the regiment having pursued the "even tenor of its way," without any unusual outburst of military enthusiasm so wont in time past under its former commander. The regiment, as a matter of course, has lost in membership greatly, and no longer vies in numerical strength with the Seventh, yet it has reached a solid basis, and to-day, under the well-known military administration of its commander, is far more effective as a military organization than in its most palmy days. The Ninth has recruited a good class of men to take the place of its holiday soldiers, and, even with its still unfinished quarters, is able to hold its own against all comers. The armory which it now occupies is amply spacious, and only requires the too long neglected completion to make it one of the best of the present style of regimental headquarters. A movement is now being made, we learn, toward fitting up the different company rooms, and estimates are being made as to the probable cost thereof. Colonel Braine has visited Albany, we understand, relative to securing moneys due the regiment for uniforms worn out in the service, in accordance with an application forwarded last year, and with this amount the Ninth expects to be placed on a good footing and beyond indebtedness.

The "new departure" of Major Kittle is undoubtedly a loss to the field of the regiment, but ambition will sometimes get the better of men, and the loss to the Ninth will most assuredly be a gain to the Eighth, in which regiment, as announced elsewhere, he has accepted the lieutenant-colonelcy. The vacancy thus made will be another bone of contention in the regiment, and already we hear of not a few "outside" as well as "inside" candidates mentioned in its connection. The Ninth we opine can very well fill this position without following the bad example of seeking outside.

**EIGHTH INFANTRY.**—On Monday evening Major Dow S. Kittle, of the Ninth, was unanimously chosen as lieutenant-colonel of this regiment, vice N. Gano Dunn, appointed engineer in chief on the staff of Governor Dix. In the election of this officer the Eighth, while breaking a good rule, has made the best of it by choosing a most eligible field officer for the position. Our personal knowledge of the lieutenant-colonel elect makes us think that the Eighth has done a good thing in electing this capable young officer to second in command, and his soldierly abilities and spirit will undoubtedly be of vast importance to the welfare of the old Washington Grays. At the conclusion of the election, the officers of the Eighth waited on the newly elected at his inviting residence, and, together with the officers of the Ninth "pledged eternal friendship" and all that sort of thing, you know, amid speeches of acceptance and congratulations, etc.

**TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.**—On Saturday evening last this command held the first of its series of six concerts and social hops at Burnham's Academy, Brooklyn. The attendance was large, and the number of pretty women present in handsome walking costume was really surprising, when it i



considered that these gatherings are of the most informal character, and the price of admission only a half a dollar. One would suppose it impossible to publicly gather so large and select an assemblage of "fair women and brave men" at so small a price of admission. Yet this concert showed conclusively that the Twenty-third can do it, and that its members have among their friends some of the fairest of Brooklyn's many fair. The concert music by the regimental band under Sig. Conerno was charmingly excellent in rendition, and the selections new and pleasing. The dancing music after the concert was perfectly irresistible, and the "light tripping" kept up until almost midnight. The next concert will occur February 15, and those following, March 1 and 15, and April 5 and 19. The band of the Twenty-third under its present efficient management is beginning to make its mark in Brooklyn and New York, and is gradually securing the patronage which it has really won by its merit, and which it cannot exist without. The music rendered by this band at the Prospect Park Saturday concerts last summer was most excellent, and deservedly praised, despite its numerically reduced condition on those occasions.

**THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**—The Board of Directors of this association held their fifteenth regular meeting at 194 Broadway on the Tuesday afternoon, President Colonel Wm. C. Church presiding. The secretary (Captain Wingate) reported that, at a meeting of the association held January 14, the directors whose terms expired with the present had been unanimously elected; that in pursuance of a resolution passed at that meeting, as well as at the last meeting of the board, he had prepared a pamphlet giving an account of the proceedings thereat, and containing the reports and such other matter as would be required in answer to questions in regard to the association, which pamphlet was nearly completed. He also reported that a committee, consisting of Generals Shaler, Johnson, and Captain Wingate, had visited Albany at the meeting of the State Military Association; had conferred with the Governor and Adjutant-General and the speaker of the House, and other prominent gentlemen in regard to the introduction of local rifle associations; that the bill had been left with the Adjutant-General for revision and been by him returned to General Shaler, and that the same would be sent to Albany during the present week. The Adjutant-General had expressed himself as strongly in favor of the objects of the association, and the Governor signified his intention of being present at the annual competitive meeting of the association. The secretary announced that he had been notified by General Lloyd Aspinwall, and also by General John B. Woodward, that it was their intention to each present a prize to be competed for at the coming meeting. The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year, the treasurer, General John B. Woodward, declining to accept a re-election: President, Col. W. C. Church; Vice-President, Major-General Alex. Shaler; Secretary, Captain Geo. W. Wingate; Corresponding Secretary, Fred. M. Peck; Treasurer, Major John N. Partridge. The treasurer's report being read, showed a balance of \$4,800 on hand. Some twenty-two new members were then elected, including General Meserole and the entire Eleventh brigade staff, and eleven additional members of Company E, Seventh regiment, proposed by Lieutenant Barrington. Mr. W. A. Fitzhugh was elected a life member. A motion was introduced to the effect that the Adjutant-General be respectfully requested to require the National Guard of the State to take up aiming and position drill this season as part of its military practice, so as to be better prepared to enter upon target practice when the weather will permit, to compete with credit for the State prize to be offered in the fall. The chair announced the following committee for the ensuing year: Finance—General Johnson, Major Partridge, Generals Ward, Sigel, and Major Powell; Range—Generals Shaler, Woodward, Mr. Craven, Captain Wingate, Hon. D. W. Judd; Prizes—Mr. Peck, Major Partridge, Captain Wingate, Colonel Cullen, Major Smith; Legislation—Hon. D. W. Judd, General Shaler, Colonels Cullen and Squire, and Captain Wingate; Auditing—Generals Woodward and Sigel, and Major Powell. The contractors have promised to have the Creedmore range embankment completed by the first of May, and every effort will be made by the Board of Directors to have the rifle grounds formally opened the latter part of that month.

**SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.**—At an election in this command held on Monday evening Quartermaster Thos. L. Raymond was unanimously elected major, vice Lockwood, promoted lieutenant-colonel. Major Raymond is an old favorite of the regiment, having been its quartermaster since 1868, receiving the reappointment on the staff of the different regimental commanders during this period, and therefore worthy of promotion to a field position according to the evident views of the officers of the regiment. Regarding the military capabilities of the Seventy-first's new major, we know little aside from those which devolve on a staff officer of a National Guard organization. Still from what we can ascertain Major Raymond has accepted the position, and will doubtless make a most acceptable field of the regiment, both socially and militarily. At the conclusion of the election, the officers of the regiment in a body proceeded to the residence of ex-Colonel Harry Rockafellar, and, in accordance with previous arrangements of the Board of Officers, formally presented the handsomely prepared resolutions voted to this latter officer by the officers of the regiment some time since, a brief description of which resolu-

tions and their form was given in a recent number of the JOURNAL. Lieutenant-Colonel Lockwood in well chosen terms made the presentation, the recipient responding in feeling words. The officers then adjourned to the dining-room, and there enjoyed the generous hospitality of their commander for several hours amid social converse, etc.; the sparkling wine aiding in developing the eloquence of Colonels Vose and Rockafellar, Lieutenant-Colonel Lockwood, Captain Desmarests, and others. Colonel Vose has reconstructed the regimental staff as follows: Adjutant, David C. Graham; Surgeon, Lewis Balch; Assistant Surgeon, General Z. Hunter; Quartermaster, R. J. Guilbert; Assistant Commissary of Subsistence, Isaac P. Chambers; Chaplain, Rev. James L. Hall. Until Adjutant Graham is commissioned Lieutenant Stevenson been detailed as acting adjutant. Colonel Vose will shortly order theoretical drills for non-commissioned, as well as continue the same drills for officers.

**FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.**—The armory of this command on Wednesday evening was filled with the friends of the regiment, who assembled to witness the execution of a series of military movements, to listen to the music of the regimental band, and lastly, to participate in the delights of the dance, which concluded the pleasant and varied proceedings of the evening. The regiment assembled, under command of Colonel Austen, ten commands, twelve files strong; formed in the main drill-room, occupying almost the entire four sides of the room, allowing space only for the reviewing party and other distinguished officers, who took position in the open square immediately between the right and left of the battalion. Immediately in the rear of the battalion were congregated and packed the spectators. After the formation the troop beating off the battalion prepared for review, Inspector-General Morris, the reviewing officer, being accompanied by his assistant, Colonel Blanchard. The troops looked remarkably well during this ceremony, and observed great steadiness. The passage in review was accomplished without some difficulty, the battalion first being broke into fours, put in motion, and forming company after the left had well closed up, so as to allow sufficient space for the passage of the right companies. Despite this movement, the turning out of the band almost blocked the first three right companies, who broke into column of fours immediately after passage, and became much crowded; the left companies, however, made a very fair passage; and the whole, under existing circumstances, was far less confused than the most sanguine expected. The drill which followed comprised necessarily the simple portion of the school of the battalion, such as marching in column of fours, by company, forming division to and on, etc., the execution of all of which was as remarkable for the absence of confusion and grave errors as previous drills of the regiment. The battalion frequently was a little too quick in its step, and the rear ranks not always perfectly closed or well aligned. Many of the file closers were also careless in preserving steadiness and alignment. Still, as a whole, the drill was noticeable for general excellence under circumstances so discouraging, and gave evidence that the Forty-seventh has not retrograded an iota, and is just the regiment to move in or on a crowd when called on for such practical duty. The dress parade, which closed the military proceedings, was exceedingly well done, the manual being almost perfect. The band and drum corps, during the military portion of the programme, did not show to the best advantage, there being a hesitancy on the part of the drum-major and band leader, and an evident want of understanding all around. In the first formation it was clear that neither the drum-major nor band leader expected to "beat off," and were therefore momentarily unprepared. The drum corps, as well as the band, in almost every instance either failed to understand the baton signal or were somewhat prejudiced against Drum-Major McKnight, a new appointment and graduate of the Seventh's corps, who for the first time handled the baton in the Forty-seventh. The drum-major may have also been laboring under nervousness. After the dress parade the companies marched to their respective quarters, and awaited in line the presence of the Inspector-General, who formally examined every room, the headquarter and company books, concluding with a minute examination of the small drill-room, where the hospitalities of the regiment were offered to the inspecting party and a numerous assemblage of invited guests. After this came selection by the band, tattoo by the drum corps, and finally the much desired dance. General Morris expressed himself as exceedingly pleased with the condition of the regiment, and stated that during his tour of inspection throughout the State thus far none had begun to equal the Forty-seventh in general excellence. There were hosts of military gentlemen present during the evening, including Major-General Woodward and staff, Second division; Brigadier-Generals Dakin and Meserole and staffs, commanding Fifth and Eleventh brigades.

**VARIOUS ITEMS.**—General Orders from General Headquarters State of New York state that Sidney De Kay, of the city of New York, has been appointed Military Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief, with the rank of colonel, vice John W. Dix, resigned. Company C, of the Fifth regiment, gave a ball at the Germania Assembly Rooms Monday night, which was a combination of a military ball and a masquerade. It was a brilliant affair, and attracted a large assemblage. The Committee on Amusements and Drill-rooms of the Board of Supervisors, to whom was referred a communication from the proprietor of the building, corner of

Broadway and Fourth street requesting this board to re-sell the lease of the upper floor of said premises, used as an armory for the Eighty-fourth regiment, on Monday reported in favor of re-sell the lease, which was adopted. The investigation in regard to the lease of Nilsson Hall as an armory is still continued, and among the "new developments" before the special committee of the Board of Supervisors was that Mr. (General) Postley, a lawyer, leased Nilsson Hall from the owner, Mr. Young, for Mr. Fallon, at the rate of \$10,000 a year and taxes, but that he had nothing to do with the sub-letting of the hall to the city. Company F, Fifty-fifth, Captain John M. Schmidt, on Tuesday evening held at Germania Assembly Rooms one of the jolliest military and masquerade balls of the season. These festive gatherings are exceedingly amusing, and Company F is as "well up" in these masquerades as it is in the military, as all its movements have fully shown for years past. Major Boehrer was the former commander, and, as an expression of the great regard in which he is held, the company some time since surrounded him with their portraits, handsomely framed, and during the evening presented it through First Sergeant Rhode. Everybody was happy, so was Major Boehrer, also the members of the Seventh, in the disguise of the Fifty-fifth. Company A, Ninety-sixth regiment, Cap. Wm. Buckmann, February 11 abgehaen in der Turn Halle, 66 and 68 East Fourth street. The Seventy-ninth (Highlanders) will hold high carnival at Apollo Hall on Friday evening, February 7. The Twelfth was ordered to assemble for review and drill at the State Arsenal Friday evening, February 7. Inspector-General Morris, reviewing officer. The Sixth still hold possession of the "supper-room" of the Academy of Music, and expect to have undisputed command of the building on Monday. Colonel Sterry never says die. Colonel "Charlie" Spencer will visit Washington in full fatigue March 4. He will be accompanied by the Fifth Infantry of New York, at a cost of ten thousand dollars, to be subscribed by the friends of the regiment and its commander—sure! The Fourteenth, of Brooklyn, Lieutenant-Colonel McLeer commanding, is gaining rapidly, and will soon muster in a new company of forty men, to take the vacant letter G in the regiment. This regiment deserves to succeed, and we trust it may soon be, as seems likely to be the case, one of the strongest regiments in Brooklyn. A bill was introduced in the New York Legislature on Wednesday by Mr. Burns to prevent officers of the National Guard from holding municipal office; and the National Guard should look well after it. Have officers of the State service no rights whatever? The First, it is stated, will shortly lose again one of its new field officers. The Fifth, Eleventh, Sixty-ninth, Eighty-fourth, Ninety-sixth, and some other organizations of New York city do not pretend to inform the public of their military movements through the medium of the press; therefore, they are gradually being forgotten. The Fifth regiment, however, we learn will drill at the State Arsenal by wing February 25 and 27, and will go to Washington—sure. Colonel Fuller, of the Fifty-fifth, who for some time has been very seriously ill, is, we learn with gratification, on the improvement. Some of the companies of the Seventh have voted to visit Washington March 4. This and every other militia command had far better spend both time and money for an encampment next summer. Nothing, under ordinary circumstances, would better please us than to see a large and good representative portion of the State militia present in Washington on the occasion of the inauguration of General Grant; but when the cost is considered, as well as the bad effects of such excursions on the discipline of the troops, and the little practical benefit derived, we are inclined to look unfavorably on the matter. Company B, Twelfth, Captain Burns, give a reception at the regimental armory February 24.

**MISSOURI.**—Our correspondent "Leigh" sends the following interesting news from this State, under date of St. Louis, January 28, 1873:

St. Louis will send to Washington City on the 4th of March, as a representative of Missouri militia, Company A, of the First battalion N. G. Preparations for this excursion are almost completed, and the company will take with it about one hundred men, and the battalion band of twenty pieces, also the drum corps. This company is about a year old, numbering on its rolls one hundred and twenty active members of the best material in the State. The members are uniformed similar to the New York Seventh regiment, and the company, although not as proficient in the tactics as some of the Eastern commands, yet there are many older organizations much more deficient, and I will be much disappointed if they fail to receive the highest praises from military men present at the celebration. Arrangements are being made with the railroad companies so as to enable the command to visit Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York on the return home, thus affording the men an opportunity of witnessing the military organizations of those cities. Company A is composed of some of our most prominent young men, both in social and business circles, and St. Louis feels justly proud in sending abroad so creditable and I trust gallant a command.

Company B, of the First battalion N. G., gave an exhibition drill last night at the battalion armory, and I regret that they too have not made up their minds to visit Washington, for the drill was perhaps the best ever witnessed in St. Louis. The militia men of the State have drawn up a militia law, which has been offered in the State Senate, and is now in the hands of the committee on military matters. You will recollect from a former letter of mine I stated that Missouri was without a militia law of any kind, and that our National Guard is a self-supporting organization. The proposed law has many good features, and from present indications I am inclined to believe it will meet the approbation of the legislative assemblies. Should it pass I will send a short summary of its provisions.

**MASSACHUSETTS.**—We learn through a Boston exchange that the board of officers engaged in the preparation of a manual to be used by such organizations of the Massachusetts militia as are and may be supplied with the Peabody breech-loader, have completed its report. One of the propositions considered was to abolish the order to fire, the ground being taken that the soldier is a better judge of his aim than the commanding officer can be. It was therefore thought best to omit the order to fire and allow the men to discharge their rifles after they had taken accurate aim, instead of blazing away hap-hazard before the piece had been properly sighted. It is currently reported that the commanders of two organizations of the militia have forwarded to the Commander-in-Chief their bills for entertainment furnished while the Governor and staff were visiting the respective encampments last summer for the purpose of reviewing the troops; and, furthermore, it is stated that the bills have been paid. It is thought that either the Third or Fifth regiment will receive the remainder of the supply of breech-loaders now in charge of the armorer of the State Arsenal.



## THE CLOSING DAYS ABOUT RICHMOND.

BY AN OFFICER OF THE CORPS.

## III. THE CAVALRY CORPS IN THE DEATH THROE OF THE REBELLION.

[Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1873, by W. C. & F. F. Church, in the office of the Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C.]

It was just previous to the event narrated at the close of my last article that, affairs looking favorable in front of our cavalry, an officer of General Merritt's staff rode up to General Sheridan with, "General Merritt's compliments, sir; and he thinks now would be a good time to put the cavalry 'in.'" To this he received the characteristic, laconic reply, "Go in;" and the cavalry did "go in." There seemed to be no chance to charge, but charge they must. Custer, who, it will be remembered, held our extreme left, was ordered to dismount his division, and send them forward. He dismounted enough to comply with his orders, pressed them to the front, and sent two mounted brigades still further to the left to strike the enemy's rear. Every move on our part was successful. The rebel artillery for a short time played havoc among our brave assailants; but they were the guns of despair. The musketry on the right was for a while terrific, while the constant dashes of our mounted and dismounted cavalry, added to the sound of skirmishing directly in the rebel rear, were increasing sources of demoralization and defeat. No troops could stand it long. Their lines were shaken; the red sunset glimmered through the forest as if to rebuke the fratricidal strife; and the vigorous cheers of Union battalions pursued a flying and defeated foe. Ayres, Crawford, and Griffin did not halt, but pressed close on the fugitives, and gathered hosts of prisoners; while Custer, who was never known to lose an opportunity, now charged his mounted squadrons. There was no escape; turn where they would, the flying rebels were confronted. All their dead, most of their wounded, and ambulances, guns, caissons, with over 4,000 prisoners, fell into our hands.

While the thick woods assisted their retreat and prevented greater captures, darkness only gave an end to the chase. It is a curious fact that so many small arms were the next day collected on this field that, for want of transportation, to prevent the possibility of their falling again into hands of the enemy, the rebel muskets were actually used to corduroy several parts of the very bad roads in this vicinity.

The flower of Lee's army was fairly beaten. Pickett's division, as an organization, has never since been heard of, and to the end of the campaign its stragglers from this field were daily encountered. Some even sought their homes at once to lay down their arms for peace, and many a Confederate soldier did not hesitate to express his belief that further resistance to the Union armies would only be as sanguinary as it would be unavailing.

This battle of Five Forks is justly regarded as the turning point in the campaign. Had the enemy won it, Petersburg and Richmond might have held out many days and probably weeks longer. When they lost it the Southside railroad was no longer useful to them, nor had they any line of retreat south of Appomattox for their forces at Petersburg.

The news of Sheridan's success, as it reached the different portions of our lines during the evening, electrified the troops, and in honor thereof shouted salutes were improvised and added distraction to the foe. There was little sleep for officers or men of either army that night. Orderlies galloped from general to general, colonels and captains inspected their commands, while the pattering and constant skirmish fire betokened activity and vigilance. Later this became more monotonous, and there might be a chance for a little repose. It was a calm, clear, starlight night; but soon the very ground seemed to tremble as though by an earthquake. Old campaigners tell of the cannonading at Fredericksburg and Gettysburg; but neither equalled in fury, reverberation or grandeur this midnight bombardment at Petersburg. Each army seemed determined that its adversary should have no rest. A mutual agreement of terrifying annoyance and wild destruction might have prevailed. Along those immense lines, from the Appomattox river on the right to where Sheridan was quietly resting on the battle-field of Five Forks, hundreds of guns, of every conceivable calibre, counterfeited the dread clamors of the immortal Jove. The plump of the solid shot as it buried itself in the earth, the shrieking, whistling Parrott as you traced its lightning course by its burning fuse, the venerable mortar as it slowly curved through the darkness in its fiery parabola and bursting high in air dropped its missiles of death into massing battalions, the spiteful little mine as it "whist" above the parapet—this was the pandemoniac introduction to the bloody onset for which our armies were preparing.

Daylight did not dawn the next pleasant Sunday morning on a sleeping soldier. Despite the great bombardment everything was ready, and along more than twenty continuous miles of works there was one grand assault which no historian ever contemplated and no pen can describe. The Ninth corps, the Sixth corps, the Army of the James, and the Second corps, extending in this order from right to left, each vied with the other in this glorious, successful, and immortal charge. The names of their heroes, living and dead—for the joy of victory in many a home was buried in the grief of bereavement—should be inscribed on an enduring shaft as a nation's monument to its heroic defenders. Let him who deems himself worthy essay to depict these scenes.

It was about eleven o'clock on the morning of April 7, as he attempted the worship of his God, that, sitting quietly in church at Richmond, Jefferson Davis received from his coadjutor Robert Lee the following brief despatch: "My lines have been pierced; I shall evacuate Petersburg and Richmond." This simply tells the story.

Meanwhile Sheridan was not idle; but his movements during this day, though materially aiding the general plan by reaping every advantage possible of his victory at Five Forks, were not specially notable. Miles' division of the Second corps reached him by daylight, Grant

being determined that there should now be nothing lost where so much had been gained.

The cavalry moved toward Ford's station at daylight and found the rebel cavalry collected near the crossing of Hatcher's run. But they fell back before him, and Sheridan, with his cavalry and Fifth corps, soon halted at Ford's station, on the Southside road. The importance of this road to the rebels had been frequently so overestimated by newspaper generals in their editorial headquarters that now that we held it, some of our officers facetiously observed, "The war is over and we can go home." Miles' division was to strike the railroad nearer Petersburg, by a road known as the "Clairbourne Road." At the crossing of Hatcher's run, however, he came up with the enemy's infantry who, deeming it prudent not to offer battle there and retiring before him posted themselves on an open farm at Sutherland's station. There was some misunderstanding about this time as to whether General Miles was under the command of Sheridan or Humphreys. Certain it is that the former relinquished it without a conflict of authority, while at the close of the day, when General Humphreys was congratulated by an officer on the brilliant success of this division of his corps, he generously replied; "It is General Miles' victory. I had nothing to do with it. The credit is due to him."

It was indeed a creditable affair, this handsome little battle at Sutherland station. Close by the railroad here there ran a fine wide turnpike, known as the "Cox Road," in former times the favorite drive from Petersburg, and leading through a well cultivated farming country. In quiet contrast to the dreary forests south of Hatcher's run and not yet laid waste by the tramp of armies, the green fields and blooming fruit trees wore a rustic beauty quite refreshing. The rebels had chosen this for a battle field and had thrown up hastily a breastwork of earth and rails parallel with the road, while to the west some small redoubts a little more elaborate protected their flank. Their force comprised portions of two divisions, in all four brigades of infantry commanded by Soles, McGowan, McKee and Wilcox. They had in position seven pieces of artillery, but while the battle was pending other guns were removed to the rear. Miles had attacked them twice during the afternoon without success. They held their own and inflicted on him considerable loss. His force consisted only of three brigades and Clarke's battery, about 5,000 men, while the rebels mustered full as many, had a good position and acted entirely on the defensive. Late in the afternoon, while General Humphreys was hurrying to the support of General Miles, the latter massed his troops on the enemy's left flank, and made a third and successful assault. Two of his brigade commanders (Generals Medill and McDougall) were wounded, but the enemy were by sunset driven from the field, losing two guns, a battle flag, and several hundred prisoners.

The fatigue of the troops and want of cavalry prevented further pursuit; and when all was quiet here, the fading sound of artillery in the direction of Ford's station announced that in Sheridan's front he too was "master of the situation." Crook's cavalry having now nothing further to accomplish by remaining at Dinwiddie, also moved forward with all the trains, and as the roads were by this time quite dry, encamped for the night near General Miles, who remained at Sutherland station.

This closed the fifth of the great eleven days' campaign; and had it not been for the troublesome storms so seriously delaying our troops there can be but little doubt that the results witnessed the next morning in the entire evacuation of Petersburg and the abandonment of the rebel capital would have been accomplished at least one day earlier.

(To be continued.)

## FOREIGN ITEMS.

On the first day of this year the law abolishing military substitutes in France came into force.

A FRENCH naval squadron is being fitted out for a series of manoeuvres in the Mediterranean.

GENERAL NEUVENS, director of the cannon foundry at Liege, is mentioned at the future Belgian Minister of War.

It is now just a year since the Wurttemberg army exchanged its distinctive uniform, which was modelled somewhat after the French fashion, for the well-known military dress of Prussia.

THE Danish War Minister has introduced a bill proposing a total revision of the organization of the army and navy, and a complete fortification of Copenhagen from the land and sea sides. The sum demanded for this purpose amounts to 17,000,000 rix-dollars.

THE uniform of the Bavarian army is to be altered and made similar to that of the Prussians. The infantry will adopt dark Prussian trousers, but retain the light blue tunic and the Roman helmet which the Bavarian infantryman, alone out of those of modern armies, has for a long time past carried. The Prussian distinctive badges of rank are to be in future used. On the more important question of arms, the Bavarian Government has decided not to attempt any change in its new breech-loader, the Werder, which was found to answer fully every expectation.

THE budget for the German navy for the year 1874, which will be shortly submitted to the Reichsrath, provides for a special credit for the construction of small plated vessels capable of carrying big guns. These vessels, drawing very little water, and incapable of venturing far from the coast, have a special destination. They will be of use in the Baltic, especially in the Gulf of Finland and on the shores of the Russian provinces. In these latitudes the waters are frequently very shallow. Sometimes the depth does not exceed from one to one and a half metres. It is not easy to conceive any other object for this flotilla of plated ships but this one. We may be sure the St. Petersburg Government is keeping a sharp look-out on their doings.

THE Russian press, as quoted by the *Pull Mail Gazette*,

is in a warlike mood at present. An article in the *Russian World* estimates the military resources of the empire, and insists on the necessity of being armed to the teeth. Russia, less than any other State (it says), can afford to cease to be a great military power. The other European States fight among themselves, but, nevertheless, they recognize each other's rights to existence. But Russia is regarded as an intruder at the European banquet, and therefore for her the question of military power is one of life or death. So long as she is not secured from that side she cannot sleep at peace. This being so, the necessity for military reorganization may be taken for granted, and the *Russian World* examines the resources of Russia, and points out their abundance in quite an optimistic spirit. She can put twice as many men under arms, we are told, as Germany. The utmost force Germany can put in line, with all her efforts, is 1,300,000 men, while Russia in 1855, when her population was ten millions less than now, had 2,500,000. The question for Russia thus is not to get numbers, but how best to distribute what she has. After some further reflections on the ease with which Russia might increase the number of 2,400,000 fixed by the Commission as that of her army, the *Russian World* says, "We have no need of the permanent cadres for the reserve on a peace footing except for the artillery. What is necessary is an active army composed of well-trained soldiers, and behind the army national forces adequately prepared to form reserves in as great number as necessary, and to fill up the gaps as required in the active army. With our immense population we have not one only but two sources for our armed forces, the annual recruiting and the recruiting the reserves. That is the most characteristic of the peculiarities of Russia in a military point of view." The *Russian World* also boasts of the cavalry which Russia can put on the field to the number of from 350,000 to 300,000 men, horsemen almost from birth.

In concluding an excellent article on the reorganization of the French army, the *London Standard* asks: "Let us see what will be the anticipated result of the new law as regards available fighting men." Proceeding to answer the query, our contemporary says: "The average number of men who annually attain the age of twenty is 302,000. Deducting from these men disqualified from infirmity, want of height, the contingent for the navy, men provisionally exempted, and losses from death, desertion, sickness, and punishment, we arrive at an average number of men annually available for military service of 150,000. Making allowances for deaths, invaliding, etc., and the latest contingent as only partially trained, and adding 120,000 men not provided for by enrolment, and comprising officers, volunteers for five years, gendarmes, native and foreign corps, workmen attached to the artillery and engineers, re-engaged men, etc., we get the following totals: Regular army, 674,720; reserve of the regular army, 510,380; grand total of trained men, 1,185,100. From these must be deducted normal non-combatants, comprising departmental police, military workmen, hospital corps, etc., amounting to 96,490, the army in Algeria, men sick, under punishment, on leave, etc., giving a grand total to be deducted of 166,427. On the other hand, old soldiers over forty, volunteers under twenty, men incapable of combatant service, but available for hospital corps, etc., must be added. France can, therefore, calculate on putting in the first line, within a few days after a declaration of war, 110,000 trained combatants. In the second line would be the youngest class of the contingent, only partially trained, and the territorial army, making, probably, a total of about 2,000,000 fighting men available for the defence of the country. Great as will be the material advantages resulting from the new law, the moral results will be even greater. The army will in future be itself the great training school of the nation, and will thus both give and derive benefits. If these benefits be properly utilized by the government, they cannot fail in the course of a few years to raise France to a far greater height of military power than it has attained since the day when the grand army and Napoleon's might withered away together in the fatal Russian campaign."

A GREAT HELPER.—Every one reads the war news, how few understand the words used to describe fortresses; how many skip the names of the places where battles are fought, and the Latin and French terms found in every report. Webster gives you the picture and the definition of every aspect of a fortress and every part of a military engine. Names of persons and places are alphabetically arranged and their proper pronunciation given, and all ordinary foreign terms clearly defined. It is not only the great hand-book for modern, but for ancient history. In a word, not one in a hundred can read over an ordinary newspaper paragraph intelligently without the aid of Webster's Dictionary.—*Chicago Journal of Commerce*.

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## MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

LYSTER-DOUGHTY.—January 8, 1873, in St. John's church, Cincinnati, by the Right Reverend S. A. McCoskey, D.D., Bishop of Michigan, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel WILLIAM J. LISTER, Captain Nineteenth Infantry, to Miss MARTHA GUTHRIE, daughter of W. M. Doughty, Esq.

## DIED.

EGAN.—At West Point, N. Y., January 24, ADA D., daughter of Captain John and Diantha Egan, aged two years and six months.

WARD.—In Worcester, Mass., January 28, JOSIE M., wife of Brevet Captain Henry C. Ward, U. S. A., and daughter of Henry A. Denny.









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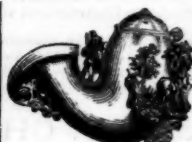
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